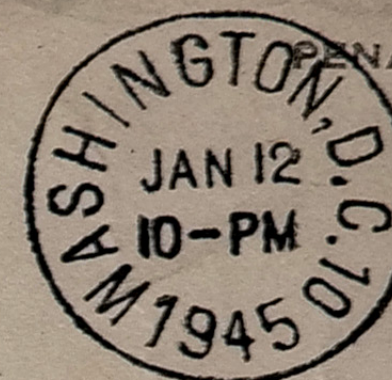


WAR DEPARTMENT
ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF
THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID

PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$3.00

(PMGC)

Mrs. Margaret Lapina,
1350 Fulton Street,
Grand Haven, Michigan.



HEADQUARTERS ARMY SERVICE FORCES

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



11 January 1945

RE: Sgt. Anthony Lapina, ASN 16 168 073,
United States Prisoner of War,
Interned by Germany,
International Red Cross Directory,
Geneva, Switzerland,
Via: New York, New York.

Mrs. Margaret Lapina,
1350 Fulton Street,
Grand Haven, Michigan.

Dear Mrs. Lapina:

The Provost MARSHAL General has directed me to supplement the information you received recently from The Adjutant General concerning the above-named prisoner of war.

Information has been received which indicates that he is now interned as a prisoner of war by the German Government. The report received did not give his camp location. This conforms with the usual practice of the German Government not to report the address of a prisoner of war until he has been placed in a permanent camp. Past experience indicates that his camp address may not be reported to this office until one to three months have elapsed from the time he was first reported a prisoner of war.

Pending receipt of his permanent address, you may direct letter mail to him by following instructions in the inclosed mailing circular and by addressing him as illustrated above. One parcel label and two tobacco labels, with instructions for their use, will be forwarded, without application on your part, when his permanent location is reported.

Sincerely yours,

Howard F. Bresee

HOWARD F. BRESEE,
Colonel, C.M.P., Director,
Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

Incl:
Mailing Circular

INFORMATION CONCERNING BENEFITS TO CERTAIN DEPENDENTS
OF MISSING, CAPTURED, OR INTERNED PERSONNEL.

Public Law 490, 77th Congress, provides that any allotment made by a person in the military service for the support of dependents or for the payment of insurance premiums will continue when that person is officially listed as missing, captured, or interned.

The Act mentioned above also provides for an increase in your allotment if you can show that you need more money for your support. Or, if you are not now receiving an allotment and can show that you need one, the Act provides for that. Your local chapter of the American Red Cross or of the Women's Volunteer Committee will help you prepare and submit applications for any of these benefits to which you may be entitled.

Dependents of persons in the military service who may receive allotments for their support include - -

Legal wives

Unmarried children under 21

Other relatives (mothers, step-children, adopted children)

Any other relatives the missing person has officially listed as dependent upon him.

Any payments made to dependents will, of course, be charged against the pay of the missing person.

This information should be given by you to other relatives of the missing person who should know of these facts.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY SERVICE FORCES
Office of The Provost Marshal General
Washington 25, D. C.

REVISED MAILING INSTRUCTIONS - GERMANY

The Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of The Provost Marshal General, is charged with the responsibility of furnishing next of kin and other interested persons information relative to all Americans held as prisoners of war. The following instructions will govern the dispatch of letters and parcels to Germany. Do not attempt to send letters or parcels to an individual believed to be a prisoner of war in Germany until you have been officially notified of the fact that he is a prisoner and his camp location. The postal censor passes mail only to those who have been officially listed as prisoners of war. Do not send letters to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau for forwarding.

LETTER MAIL - There is now available, at all United States Post Offices where required, air mail letter sheets for use in corresponding with American prisoners of war. Experience has shown that use of such a form greatly reduces the time required for the delivery of a letter to prisoners of war in German custody. There are several reasons why this letter sheet, W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111, facilitates delivery of mail: (1) letters written on this form, with a six cent air mail stamp attached, are, after censorship, flown to Lisbon, Portugal. From that point they are forwarded by German plane to a central point for German censorship and thence dispatched to the various camps in Germany; (2) the use of this form greatly facilitates censorship both in the United States and in enemy territory by providing a standard size unsealed letter. The following is a quotation from a communication received from the Senior American Officer, prisoner of war, at Stalag Luft III, Germany, "It is suggested that a standard letter form be made available at all post offices *** The British authorities have adopted such a form to facilitate quick censoring. Consequently, their mail receives prompt attention while long sealed American letters lie unopened." It will be noted that this letter sheet is not sealed so that it should receive prompt attention from the censors. The use of W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111 is not compulsory, but the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of The Provost Marshal General, strongly urges all persons to use this form in corresponding with prisoners of war. If this form is not used, use thin paper to save weight and space. To facilitate censoring, letters should be typewritten or printed, brief, and pertaining to personal, or family matters. Avoid including information of a political or military nature. Unmounted photographs and snapshots may be included, but not in W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111. There is no limitation on the number of letters which may be written to a prisoner of war, although the Germans do restrict the number that a prisoner may write. The sender should write his letter in the spaces provided with a typewriter, or in block capitals hand printed. After the name and address of the sender and of the prisoner has been typed or hand printed in block capitals on the envelope portion, the letter should be folded as indicated, fastened, and the required postage affixed. It should then be inclosed in an outer envelope, without postage, addressed "Postmaster--Prisoner of War Air Mail", and after being sealed, it may be deposited in any post office, street letter box, or other authorized mail depository, or the letter may be handed to a clerk at a service window in the post office or a branch or station thereof without the outer envelope. This requirement for an outer envelope or handing the letter specially to a postal clerk is to prevent the letter from being postmarked with a slogan such as "Win the War", "V", or "For Defense", etc. Advice received through Swiss intermediary channels states mail addressed to American prisoners of war held in certain prison camps under German control will not be delivered to the addressee if it bears endorsements or slogans intended to promote our war effort.

Addresses. W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111 for air corps personnel should be completed. All mail to Army Air Forces personnel is censored at Stalag Luft III, Germany, regardless of where the prisoners are interned. It is therefore necessary to address all mail for Air Forces personnel to Stalag Luft III, Germany, also giving camp where prisoner of war is interned as subsidiary camp. If W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111 is not used, address on the letter should be the same as on the form; namely, rank and name, United States prisoner of war, prisoner of war number, if known, camp name and number, subsidiary camp number, Germany, Via New York, New York. In the upper left hand corner of the envelope write "Prisoner of war mail", in the upper right hand corner write "Postage free", when W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111 is not used. For non-Air Forces personnel, subsidiary camp need not be given; and if W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 111 is used, subsidiary camp may be left blank. The address for non-Air Forces personnel should give rank, name, United States prisoner of war, prisoner of war number, if known, camp name and number, Germany, Via New York, New York. The above form of address is to be used for civilian internees substituting the words "American civilian internee" for the words "United States prisoner of war" and "Civilian internee mail" for "Prisoner of war mail." In case of doubt as to the form of address for prisoner of war mail, you may consult your local postmaster who can advise you further in regard to mail address as sample addresses have been printed in the United States Postal Bulletin. Each local chapter of the American Red Cross has been furnished sample forms of addresses by the National Headquarters of the American Red Cross.

Facilities for sending "V" mail are not available to prisoners of war interned by the enemy.

Addresses shown on mail from German prison camps. The printed portion of the return address on cards and letters from German prison camps is in German. The translation is as follows: Absender--sender, Vor-und Zuname--first and surname, Gefangenennummer--prisoner of war number, Lager-Bezeichnung--camp designation, M.-Stammlager--prison camp for enlisted men. The authorized abbreviation for M.-Stammlager is Stalag. Oflag is the authorized abbreviation for Offizierslager--officers' prison camp. These authorized abbreviations are used by this office in giving camp addresses and should be used in addressing mail to prisoners.

PARCELS - Existing agreements do not permit the sending of parcels to a prisoner of war interned in a transit camp. Parcels may be sent to a prisoner of war interned in a permanent camp. When his permanent internment address has been officially reported to this bureau, one package label and two tobacco labels will be forwarded every sixty days to the next of kin without application on their part. These labels will permit the sending of one personal parcel and two tobacco parcels. Next of kin parcels to American Air Forces personnel should be addressed to the camp where they are actually interned. The procedure explained above regarding the addressing of letter mail to American aviators does not apply to next of kin parcels. When American aviators are actually interned at Stalag Luft III, Germany, however, next of kin parcels will be addressed to that camp. Labels are issued to the person officially listed in the records of the appropriate department as having been designated as the next of kin by the prisoner of war. They are transferable. Parcels will not be forwarded unless they bear the official label. Care should be taken when preparing next of kin parcels to avoid using stickers or other material which bear patriotic slogans either within or on the outside of the parcels.

PRISONER OF WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

Howard F. Bresee
By HOWARD F. BRESEE,
Colonel, C. M. P.

Revised April 1944.

24-81454

Jan. 11, 1945

Dear Cousin:

We received your letter and were glad to hear that you heard from your son. Sorry to hear that he is a prisoner in Germany. We can only hope and pray for his safe return home in the near future.

We were glad to hear Angelina had a baby and is well. We did not know her husband was in the army.

Have you heard from your sister in Italy and

how are they? Is her son still in this country?

Mama & I are well and so is Tony at present, but he has been home for over two weeks. Had the flu.

Lizzie was home for Christmas. Paul and his family were here for a few days too.

Will close, with best regards & love to you and your family and to Pete and Jelsomira.

Your Cousin,
Fannie

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1945
DEAR TONY;

THIS IS THE SECOND LETTER WE
HAVE WRITTEN SINCE WE HAVE RECEIVED
YOUR ADDRESS. AS YET WE HAVE ONLY
YOUR TEMPORARY ADDRESS. WHEN WE
GET YOUR PERMANENT ADDRESS WE
WILL SEND PARCELS. WE ARE ALL
FINE AT HOME. MOM FEELS LOTS BETTER
SINCE WE KNOW YOU ARE ALIVE. BOBBE
IS LOOKING FOR WORD FROM YOU EVERY
DAY NOW. SHE IS JUST A LITTLE JEALOUS
WHEN MOM HOLDS THE BABY. BUT SHE
LOVES THE BABY LIKE ANYTHING. NO
KIDDING BOBBE JUST HAD A FIT THIS MORN-
ING WHEN MOM GAVE BABY A BATH. SHE
SAID MOM HAD TO GIVE JUST HER A BATH
AND NOT PAMELA. BUT WHEN PEOPLE SAY
THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE THE BABY, BOY
THEN DOES BOBBE TELL. WE HEARD
FROM GENE TODAY. HE STILL HASN'T
HEARD ABOUT PAM. IS HE ANXIOUS.
THE WEATHER IS FINE TODAY. SUN IS
SHINNING BRIGHTLY. POP IS WORKING
EVERY DAY, AND GETS TIGHT ABOUT
EVERY NIGHT. UNCLE PETE IS STILL
WORKING NIGHTS. JUS IS FINE. LOTS
OF PEOPLE HAVE COME TO GET YOUR
ADDRESS, SO YOU SHOULD BE GETTING
SOME MAIL SOON. WE SURE DO HOPE
YOU ARE FEELING WELL. THAT'S WHAT

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

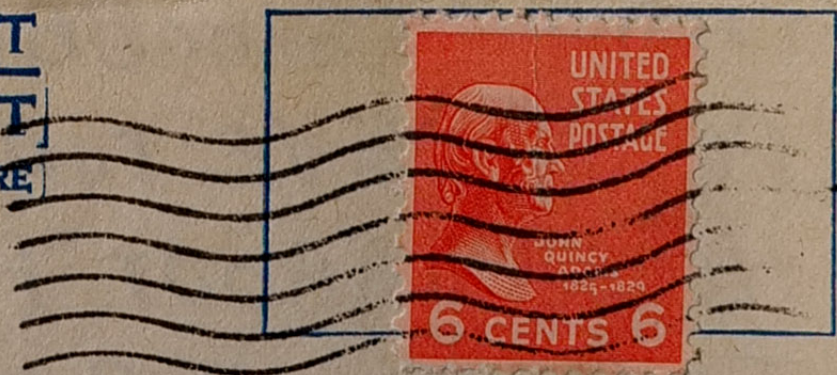
WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, THAT YOU
ARE WELL. AND DON'T GET TOO LONE-
SOME FOR US, BECAUSE WE THINK OF
YOU ALL THE TIME. WHEN WE HEARD
YOU WERE ALIVE, ALL OF GRAND HAVEN
BREATHED A SIGH OF RELIEF, AND A
LITTLE CHEER CAME AGAIN INTO THE
HEARTS OF YOUR FAMILY. GOODBYE FOR
TODAY. WILL WRITE OFTEN. LOVE, ^{YOUR} FAMILY

MR. FRANK LAPENNA
1350 FULTON STREET
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

5893
BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA, ASN 16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. _____
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY
INTERNATIONAL
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. REDCROSS DIRECTORY

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

THURSDAY JANUARY 18, 1945
DEAR TONY;

TODAY THE WEATHER HAS BEEN COLDER BECAUSE THE SUN WASN'T OUT. IT IS NOW LATE IN THE EVENING. BEEN STARTING TO WRITE THIS ALL DAY. BUT FIRST ITS ONE LITTLE GIRL AND THEN ANOTHER. EVERY ONE IS FINE TODAY.

PA HAS GONE OVER TO CAROLLA'S TONIGHT. JOE HAS JUST WRITTEN YOU AND IS GETTING READY TO GO ICE SKATING. HE IS NOW ARGUING WITH MOM TO TAKE THE CAR. BOBBE IS RUNNING AROUND THE HOUSE KEEPING EVERYBODY BUSY.

PAMELA IS SLEEPING. SHE IS SPOILED ALREADY AT TWO WEEKS. HER GRANDMA AND GRANDPA ARE SURE CRAZY ABOUT HER. SO ARE HER GREAT AUNT AND GREAT UNCLE. HER AUNT BOBBE

WANTS TO HUG AND KISS HER ALL THE TIME. BOBBE IS SITTING HERE SUCKING HER THUMB. DO YOU KNOW THAT SISTER MARY EILEEN IS TEACHING AT ST. PAT'S AGAIN. SHE ASKS ABOUT YOU EVERY TIME SHE SEES US.

WE GOT A LETTER FROM GENE TODAY. HE STILL HASN'T HEARD HE'S A DADDY. YOU KNOW LOTS OF YOUR GIRL FRIENDS COME TO THE HOUSE AND SIT AND TALK TO US AND ASK

ABOUT YOU. GUESS WHO WAS SANTA

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

CLAUS UPTOWN THIS YEAR. MR. THOMA.
WE TOOK BOBBE TO SEE SANTA. SHE
TALKED TO HIM AND HE GAVE HER
SOME CANDY KISSES. WELL TONY SO
LONG FOR TODAY. WILL TRY TO WRITE
AGAIN TOMMORROW. MOM SAID IF SHE
COULD WRITE SHE'D WRITE TO YOU
TWICE A DAY. WE THINK OF YOU ALL
THE TIME. ALL OUR LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

1350 FULTON STREET

MR. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN 16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No.
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY

SUBSIDIARY CAMP No.

5754

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

SATURDAY JANUARY 20, 1945
DEAR TONY;

WELL HERE IT IS ANOTHER
NICE WINTER DAY HERE IN OLD
GRAND HAVEN. WE ARE ALL FINE
AT HOME. BOBBE HAS JUST ~~AWAK~~
AWAKENED FROM HER NAP. AND PAMELA
HAS JUST GONE TO SLEEP. PA IS
WORKING AND SO IS JOE. HE WORKS
AT HOLSINGER'S GARAGE YOU KNOW.
DID YOU KNOW MIKE HROMTZ GOT AN
HONORABLE DISCHARGE. HE'S HOME
NOW. DID WE TELL YOU THAT WE GOT
THE REST OF THE MONEY FOR YOUR
CLARINET. GOT THE CHECK DAY BEFORE
XMAS FOR \$25. NOW WE ARE GOING TO
SEE IF WE CAN'T GET YOUR MONEY
YOU PAID IN ON YOUR 1943 INCOME
TAX. BY THE WAY. LET US KNOW
WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE US
SEND YOU IN YOUR PARCELS IF YOU
CAN. SOON AS WE GET THOSE PARCEL
LABELS WE CAN SEND YOU STUFF.
WE SURE ARE GLAD WE CAN WRITE TO
YOU. CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR FROM
YOU. SURE DO HOPE YOU ARE FINE.
AND. THAT YOUR HEALTH IS ALL RIGHT.
DID YOU KNOW THAT HROMTZ'S SOLD
THE TAVERN TO SOME PEOPLE
FROM SPRING LAKE. THEY DO A BETTER
BUSINESS THAN MIKE DID. DID YOU

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

KNOW JACK CAROLLA GOT A DIVORCE.
NOW HE'S GOING TO MARRY SOMEONE
ELSE. YOU KNOW CIGARETTES ARE
REAL HARD TO GET HERE. JOE AND
PA ARE HAVING A TIME WITH THEIR
SMOKES. WELL I GUESS THAT'S ALL
NEWS FOR TODAY. WILL FIND MORE
FOR TOMMORROW. IN THE MEANTIME
WE WILL THINK OF YOU. LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

MR. FRANK LAPENNA
1350 TULTON STREET
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No.
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DIRECTORY
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No.

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

5633

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



ATTENTION: AFPPA-8

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

AAF 201 - (10261) Lapina, Anthony
16168073

22 January 1945

Mrs. Margaret Lapina
1350 Fulton Street
Grand Haven, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Lapina:

For reasons of military security it has been necessary to withhold the names of the air crew members who were serving with your son at the time he was reported missing.

Since it is now permissible to release this information, we are inclosing a complete list of names of the crew members.

The names and addresses of the next of kin of the men are also given in the belief that you may desire to correspond with them.

Very sincerely,

E. A. Bradunas

E. A. BRADUNAS
Major, Air Corps
Chief, Notification Branch
Personal Affairs Division
Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Personnel

1 Incl.

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1945

DEAR TONY;

TODAY THE WEATHER IS VERY GOOD
HERE. IT ISN'T SNOWING BUT THE^{WIND} IS
REALLY BLOWING. JOE IS HOME THIS
MORNING AS HE IS HAVING SEMESTER
EXAMS. WE ARE ALL FINE. JOE IS
READING FUNNY BOOKS AND BOBBE
IS PESTERING HIM TO READ THE
FUNNIES TO HER. SHE LIKES TO HAVE
THE FUNNIES READ TO HER. PAMELA
HAS JUST HAD HER BATH AND SHE
IS SLEEPING. WE GOT A LETTER FROM
GENE TODAY AND HE FINALLY FOUND
OUT ABOUT THE BABY. HE STILL
DOESN'T KNOW YOU ARE A PRISONER
OF WAR, AND HE IS ALWAYS ASKING
ABOUT^{YOU}. WE HAVE WRITTEN THAT YOU
ARE ALIVE BUT HE HASN'T RECEIVED
THE LETTER YET. SOMEONE GAVE PA SOME
LITTLE FISH LAST NIGHT TO FRY AND
BOBBE HAS BEEN CARRYING THEM
AROUND. MOM IS GOING TO FRY THEM
NOW. BOBBE HAS GOTTEN HER SWEATER
WET PLAYING WITH THE FISH AND NOW
SHE IS YELLING TO HAVE A DIFFERENT
SWEATER ON. MOM TOLD HER NO AND
SHE IS SCREAMING. SOMETIMES SHE IS
REALLY NAUGHTY. EVERY TIME WE
SIT DOWN TO WRITE TO YOU SHE WANTS
PENCIL AND PAPER TO WRITE TO YOU TOO.

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

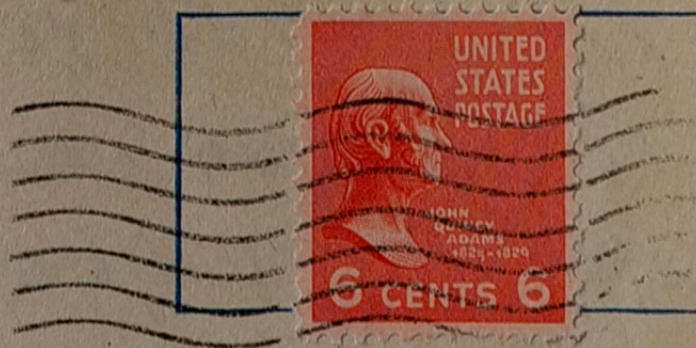
SHE EVEN READS ALL THE LETTERS
WE GET. SHE KNOWS ALL THE
NURSERY RHYMES, THERE ARE, BY HEART.
AND CAN SHE DANCE NOW. BOBBE SAYS
TO TELL YOU SHE HAS A GOOD TIME WITH
JOHNNIE AND LYNN WITH THE SLED. RIGHT
NOW SHE IS SUCKING HER FINGER. WELL
TONY THAT'S ABOUT ALL FOR TODAY. WE
THINK OF YOU ALWAYS. ALL OUR LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
1350 JULTON STREET
MR. FRANK LAPENNA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN 16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. _____
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. RED CROSS DIRECTORY

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

5633

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1945

DEAR TONY;

WELL TONY ONE MONTH HAS AL-
READY GONE IN THE NEW YEAR. AND
FEBRUARY FINDS US ALL WELL HERE
AT HOME. WE CERTAINLY DO HOPE YOU
ARE WELL AND HAPPY. WE ARE HAVING
TYPICAL FEBRUARY WEATHER TODAY.

IT'S COLD AND SNOWING OUT. BOBBE
IS FINE. MOM MADE CURLS IN HER
HAIR YESTERDAY AND BOBBE LIKED
THEM SO WELL, SHE WANTS MOM TO
CURL IT AGAIN TODAY. PAMELA IS
ONE MONTH OLD TODAY. SHE HAS HAD
HER BATH FOR TODAY, AND IS
SLEEPING. AT THE MOMENT IT SOUNDS
LIKE SHE'S TRYING TO WAKE UP. JOE
IS AT SCHOOL. PA IS WORKING. JUS
AND UNCLE PETE ARE JUST FINE.

THEY SEND THEIR LOVE. YOU KNOW
PAMELA WEIGHS ALMOST TEN POUNDS
ALREADY. SHE IS GAINING EXCEPTION-
ALLY WELL. SHE IS STARTING TO NOTICE
THINGS NOW AND WE ALL ENJOY HER
SO MUCH. AS YOU KNOW BASKETBALL
IS IN FULL SWING AT SCHOOL NOW.
JOE SAYS WE STARTED OFF GOOD
BUT WE'RE MAKING A BAD ENDING.
BOBBE SENDS TONY A BIG HUG AND
SOME KISSES, SHE SAYS. RIGHT NOW
SHE'S SINGING 'I'M GONNA DANCE

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

WITH A DOLLY WITH A HOLE IN HER
STOCKING'. SHE CAN SING IT PRETTY
GOOD TOO. WELL TONY WE WILL CLOSE
FOR TODAY. WE ARE THINKING OF
YOU ALL THE TIME. JOE IS GETTING A
LOT OF USE OUT OF THE STUFF YOU
SENT HIM. WELL GOODBYE FOR NOW.
REGARDS FROM ALL, AND ALL OUR
LOVE FROM, YOUR FAMILY

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

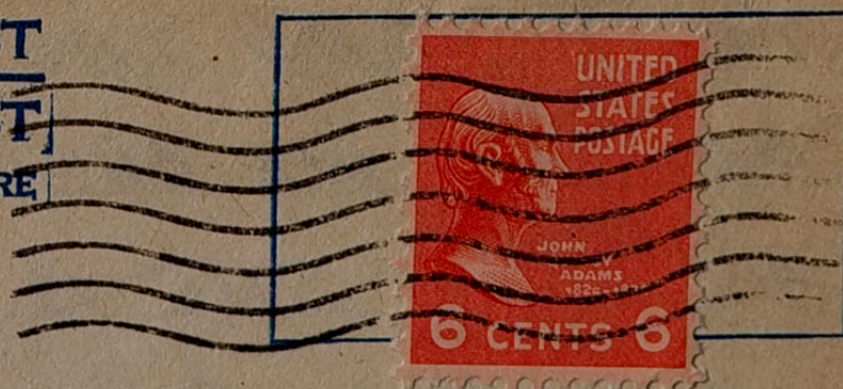
1350 EULTON STREET

MR. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SCT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. _____
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY
INTERNATIONAL
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. FED CROSS DIRECTORY

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

11783
U.S. CENSOR

RETURNED TO SENDER
By Direction of the War Department.
Undeliverable as addressed.

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1945

DEAR TONY;

WELL HOW ARE YOU THESE DAYS? FINE
WE HOPE. WE ARE ALL WELL HERE AT
HOME. THE WEATHER HAS BEEN QUITE
NICE THE PAST FEW DAYS. THE SUN
HAS BEEN OUT AND IT HAS NOT BEEN
SNOWING. BOBBE HAS BEEN OUT QUITE
OFTEN LATELY. BUT ALL SHE DOES IS
EAT SNOW. LATELY SHE HAS LEARNED
HOW TO BLOW SOAP BUBBLES. SUNDAY
SHE HAD BOTH JOE AND POP BUSY
STANDING ON CHAIRS AND EVERYTHING
BLOWING SOAP BUBBLES. RIGHT NOW
SHE HAS GONE TO THE STORE WITH
MOM. MOM IS BUSY IRONING CLOTHES
TODAY. SHE HAD A BIG WASHING YES-
TERDAY. PAMELA IS FINE. SHE WAS
SIX WEEKS OLD YESTERDAY. SHE
WEIGHS 11 POUNDS. IS SHE EVER
GETTING BIG. WELL TONY TOMMORROW
LENT STARTS. IT SEEMS THAT 1945
IS REALLY FLYING. TOMMORROW IS ALSO
VALENTINE'S DAY. YOU KNOW WHEN
ONE ASKS A PERSON THE QUESTION,
WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE, ON FEB-
RUARY 14TH, IT INFERS VERY MUCH
LOVE ONE PERSON HAS FOR THE
OTHER, SO WE ALL SEND YOU THAT
VALENTINE'S DAY GREETING. WELL TONY
THE MAILMAN HAS JUST BROUGHT YOUR

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

FIRST TWO LETTERS. ANGIE IS HOME
ALONE, MOM ISN'T BACK FROM THE
STORE YET. WAIT TILL SHE SEES THOSE
LETTERS. SHE'S BEEN SO VERY ANXIOUSLY
AWAITING THEM FOR SO LONG, AND
PA AND JOE AND JUS AND UNCLE
PETE TOO. AND BOBBE, WILL SHE YELL.
WILL WRITE THEIR REACTION IN ANOTHER
LETTER. LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

1350 FULTON STREET

MR. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

AFFIX
6¢
POSTAGE

RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN 16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No.
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. RED CROSS DIRECTORY

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

U.S. CENSOR
12,685

RECEIVED BY SENDER
Department of the War
Address
Unrecoverable

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14, 1945

DEAR TONY;

WELL HOW ARE YOU THESE DAYS?
WELL AND HAPPY WE SINCERELY HOPE.
WE ARE ALL WELL. WE ARE BUSY
TELLING EVERYONE THAT WE RECEIVED
YOUR LETTERS YESTERDAY. PEOPLE
AROUND HERE ARE ALL SO HAPPY ABOUT
IT. BOBBE IS OUTSIDE PLAYING NOW,
AS IT'S VERY NICE OUT TODAY. PAMELA
IS SLEEPING. MOM IS BUSY WITH
LUNCH FOR JOE AND PA. THEY WILL
BE HOME IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES.
TODAY LENT STARTS. MR. CAROLLA
CAME OVER LAST NIGHT. HE SAYS
SAM ASKS ABOUT YOU IN EVERY
LETTER HE WRITES. THEY ARE
SENDING SAM YOUR ADDRESS, AS HE
WANTS TO WRITE TO YOU. ALSO

MRS. FRICANO IS SENDING COSMO
YOUR ADDRESS AS HE WANTS TO
WRITE TO YOU. WE SURE DO HOPE
YOU GET MAIL FROM US VERY SOON.
WE WERE IN GREAT SUSPENSE AWAIT-
ING YOUR MAIL AS YOU MUST BE
FOR OURS. WELL TONY, THINGS ARE ^{GETTING} 1
ALONG MUCH THE SAME AS USUAL, HERE
IN YOUR OLD HOME TOWN. WE HAVE
THE USUAL PICTURESQUE ICE BERGS
DOWN AT THE BEACH. THIS YEAR BOBBE

KEEPS SAYING THAT WHEN TONY

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

COMES HOME, HE'S GOING TO TAKE
HER TO THE LAKE TO SWING. THIS
YEAR WE'LL HAVE TWO LITTLE GIRLS
TO AMUSE. THAT SHOULD KEEP US
BUSY. WELL TONY, WE WILL CLOSE
FOR NOW. YOU KNOW WE ARE ALL
THINKING OF YOU ALWAYS. WE ALL
SEND ALL OUR LOVE AND BEST WISHES.
YOUR FOLKS, MOM, PA, JOE, BOBBE, ANGIE, + PAMELA

GRAND HADEN, MICHIGAN

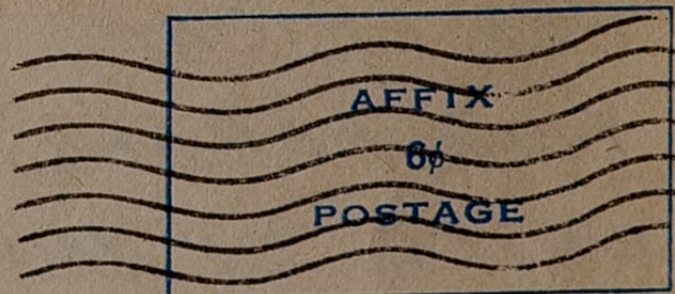
1850 FULTON STREET

M. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DES GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN 16168073
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No.
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNED BY GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. RED CROSS DIRECTORY

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

U.S. CENSOR
12,685

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1945

DEAR TONY;

HOW ARE YOU TODAY? FINE WE HOPE.
WE ARE ALL WELL HERE. THE WEATHER
IS COLD AND DAMP TODAY. IT HAS BEEN
RAINING. BOBBE WANTS TO GO OUT BUT
SHE CAN'T TILL IT CLEARS UP. WE
ARE HAVING TROUBLE WITH HER THIS
MORNING AS SHE ALWAYS WANTS TO
GO NEAR THE BABY AND TOUCH HER.
WE HAVE TO KEEP HER AWAY AS SHE
IS A LITTLE TOO ROUGH WITH HER. IF
SHE HAS A CHANCE TO GET A HOLD OF
THE BABY'S WATER BOTTLE, SHE
WILL RUN QUICK AND STICK IT IN
BABY'S MOUTH. SHE JAMS IT IN.
SHE MEANS WELL ANYWAY. SHE
WENT TO LENTEN SERVICES LAST
NIGHT WITH MOM, BUT SHE WAS VERY
NAUGHTY, RUNNING IN THE AISLES
AND EVERYTHING. SO I GUESS SHE
CAN'T GO TO CHURCH FOR A WHILE.
WELL TONY WE ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING
THE PARCEL STAMPS FROM THE GOVERN-
MENT SO WE CAN SEND YOU A FEW
PARCELS. WELL MOM IS BUSY WITH
PAMELA THIS MORNING. SHE'S NAUGHTY
TODAY, SHE WON'T GO TO SLEEP. WE
HAVE TWO NAUGHTY LITTLE GIRLS TO-
DAY. SURE DOES KEEP US BUSY. JOE IS
AT SCHOOL TODAY AND POP IS WORKING.

CONTINUE ON TOP PANEL OVERLEAF

TOP PANEL

UNCLE PEYE BUMPED A GUY WITH
HIS CAR THE OTHER DAY AND HAD
TO PAY \$10 FINE AND DAMAGES ALSO
HIS CAR IS PRETTY WELL BANGED UP.
NO ONE WAS HURT HOWEVER. WELL
TONY WE WILL CLOSE THIS LETTER.
WE WILL WRITE OFTEN AND WE ARE
CONSTANTLY TALKING ABOUT YOU AND
THINKING OF YOU. ALL OUR LOVE, YOUR FOLKS

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

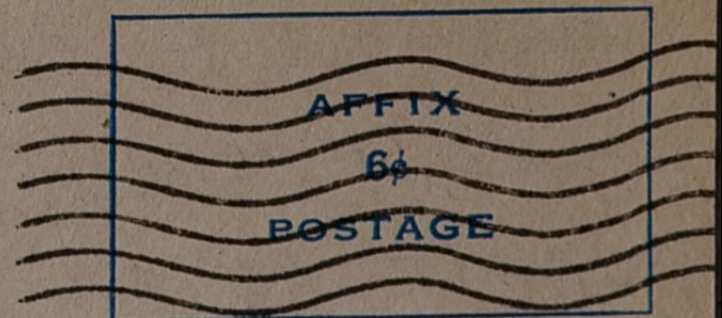
1350 FULTON STREET

M. A. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA ASN 16168023
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. _____
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. INTERNEED BY GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DIRECTORY
SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. _____

12,507

COUNTRY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

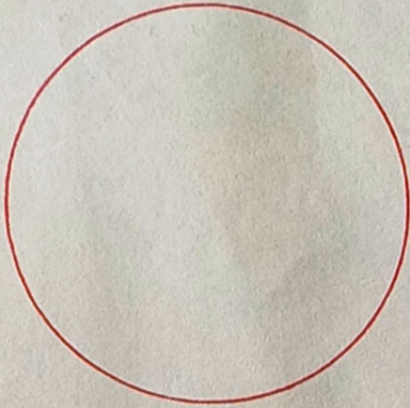
U. S. CENSOR

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil.

This communication is returned to sender because the V-Mail Correspondence form may not be used in communicating with prisoners of war.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To SGT. ANTHONY LAPEN
U.S. PRISONER OF WAR 11030
STALAG LUFT, 5, GERMANY
VIA NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Form 1606

11184

(Sender's address)

Grand Haven, Michigan
U.S.A

February 23, 1945
(Date)

DEAR TONY -

IT CERTAINLY WAS GOOD TO READ IN THE PAPER THAT YOU ARE WELL AND ARE GETTING GOOD FOOD. I IMAGINE YOU'LL BE GETTING A LOT OF LETTERS FROM YOUR OLD FRIENDS NOW. TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOURSELF.

WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF SNOW. YOU REMEMBER OUR WEATHER - SNOW TODAY, SUNSHINE TOMORROW, AND THEN A LITTLE MORE SNOW AND SLUSH. BUT I GUESS THAT'S MICHIGAN AND IT'S STILL THE BEST STATE IN THE U.S. AGREE?

THE ICE-SKATING RINK AT THE END OF SEVENTH DIDN'T AMOUNT TO SO VERY MUCH THIS YEAR, BUT ONE WEEK IN JANUARY WAS REAL NICE. WE REALLY APPRECIATED THE RINK THIS YEAR BECAUSE THERE HASN'T BEEN ONE FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS.

MIKE IS HOME FOR GOOD NOW, AND IS LIVING AND WORKING IN MUSKEGON AT THE NORGE. I SUPPOSE HE'S HITTING THE BOTTLE JUST AS HARD AS EVER. THAT BOY COULD DRINK MORE AND LONGER THAN ANY OTHER SOAK I EVER SAW. YOU CAN BE THANKFUL THAT HABIT NEVER GOT YOU DOWN - BUT OF COURSE, YOUR'S A DIFFERENT TYPE THAN MIKE - AND A MUCH NICER TYPE TOO.

ONE OF YOUR MANY OLD GIRL FRIENDS IS MARRIED - LUCILLE MILLER - REMEMBER HER? OF COURSE YOU DO. I SAY GIRL FRIEND, BECAUSE EVERY GIRL WAS TONY'S GIRL FRIEND NOW ISN'T THAT RIGHT? EVERYBODY IS GETTING MARRIED IN THIS TOWN. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE ELSE RIGHT NOW, BUT I'LL KEEP YOU POSTED ON ALL THE NEWS ABOUT THE GALS AND GUYS FROM TOWN.

I'M WORKING AT ANDERSON-BOLLING MFG. CO. - WHICH IS A WAR PLANT AS SECRETARY TO MR. BOLLING. OF COURSE, YOU KNOW THAT'S IN GRAND HAVEN.

PAT WILL GRADUATE IN JUNE, AND IS WORKING IN THE OFFICE OF ADDISON-BALTZ CO. SHE IS STILL GOING WITH DON FETT, NATURALLY.

WELL, TONY, I GUESS THIS IS ALL FOR THIS TIME. I KNOW YOU AREN'T ABLE TO WRITE VERY OFTEN EACH MONTH, SO I WON'T EXPECT TO HEAR FROM YOU. SOME TIME, OR SOME MONTH, IF YOU CAN, WRITE ME A CARD. I WILL TRY AND WRITE OFTEN.

GRAND HAVEN WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU -

BYE NOW -

Bette

V ... - MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPT. PERMIT NO. 15

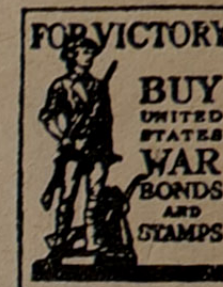


HEADQUARTERS ARMY SERVICE FORCES

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

bb



15 February 1945

RE: Sgt, Anthony Lapina,
United States Prisoner of War # 4348,
Stalag Luft 4, Germany,
Via: New York, New York.

Mrs. Margaret Lapina,
1350 Fulton Street,
Grand Haven, Michigan,

Dear Mrs. Lapina:

The Provost Marshal General has directed me to inform you of the transfer of the above-named prisoner of war to the camp indicated.

You may communicate with him by following instructions in the inclosed mailing circular.

One parcel label and two tobacco labels will be forwarded to you every sixty days without application on your part. Labels for the current period will be forwarded under separate cover.

Further information will be forwarded as soon as it is received.

Sincerely yours,

Howard F. Bresee
Howard F. Bresee,
Colonel, C.M.P.,
Assistant Director,
Prisoner of War Division.

Incl.
Mailing Circular
Information Circular

LIST OF PERMISSIBLE ITEMS WHICH MAY BE INCLUDED IN PRISONER OF WAR PARCELS—Continued

CLOTHING

Athletic clothing and shoes
Socks
Sock supporters
Belts
Shirts (regular Army or Navy if prisoners of war)
Slacks (regular Army or Navy if prisoners of war)
Underwear
Gloves
Handkerchiefs
Mufflers
Sweaters
Shoes
Shoe laces
Insoles
House slippers
Overshoes (rubbers)
Bathrobes
Pajamas
Nightgowns
Suspenders
Neckties (only service ties for prisoners of war)
Bathing suits
Women's wool hose
Officers' blouses
Overseas caps
Women's blouses
Skirts
Dresses
Ribbon

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Single blankets
Chewing gum
Shoe polish in tins
Toothpicks
Nail clippers
Wallets
Mending kits
Small scissors
Sewing kits
Shoe repair leather and nails
Buttons (nonmetallic)
Hair clippers
Vitamins in containers of cardboard, plastic, or other unbreakable materials
Safety pins
Standard phonograph records and needles
Watches (low priced)
Eyeglasses (securely packed)
Service insignia (for prisoners of war)
Religious emblems
Fountain pens
Pen holders
Pen points
Pencils
Water color paints
Oil paints for artists
Paint brushes
Glue (powdered)
Small musical instruments
Rulers
Hair nets and pins

Knitting needles (nonmetallic)
Crochet needles (nonmetallic)
Crochet thread
Knitting yarn
Elastic
Pillow covers and pillow slips
Table scarfs
Sheets
Rugs
Cooking utensils
Iodine crystals
Sponges (except rubber)
Pans, baking
Dishes, pudding
Openers, can
Boilers, porridge, double
Whisks, egg
Jugs
Pans, frying
Dishes, vegetable, with covers
Spoons, serving, table and tea
Ladles
Cloths, dish and drying
Forks, dinner
Shakers, salt
Pots, tea and coffee
Plates, dinner
Colander
Plates, pie
Kettles, tea
Bowls
Bowls, coffee
Mugs
Bowls, mixing
Kitchen and eating utensils, not of glass or other breakable materials

(IMPORTANT NOTICE.—In order that food items reach their destinations in good order, it is essential that they be strongly packed in moisture-proof containers. This is particularly necessary in the shipment of such items as powdered milk, sugar, cocoa, etc.)

FOOD ITEMS

Processed American or Swiss cheese (must be packed in cellophane and cardboard containers)
Dried prunes, raisins, or apricots, peaches, and apples (in 1 pound or ½ pound cellophane packages)
Dried soups (in cellophane bags)
Bouillon cubes (¼ pound)
Meat extracts, dried (¼ pound)
Cereals of the whole grain variety as the oatmeal and dark farina type, or vitamin-fortified white grain cereals (cardboard containers)
Nuts—only pecans, Brazil nuts, or peanuts in shell or salted (cellophane bags or cardboard boxes)
Rice (1 pound in cellophane or other transparent paper package or cardboard boxes)
Plain or chocolate powdered malted milk in press-in top tins not in excess of 1 pound
Malted milk tablets in press-in top tins not in excess of 500 tablets
Hard candy
Sweet chocolate in bars, hard—no soft centers—not to exceed 2 pounds
Candy bars
Dried cocoa
Dried vegetables in cellophane or cardboard packages
Onion flakes
Dried noodles, macaroni, or spaghetti in cardboard boxes
Baking powder

Fruit cake, in commercially packed cardboard containers
Biscuits, cookies, and crackers (1 pound in cardboard containers)
Coffee in plain bags not in excess of one-fourth (¼) pound
Tea, bulk (loose), in bags or cardboard boxes, not in excess of one-half (½) pound
Postum (in press-in top tins or cardboard boxes)
Nescafe (in press-in top tins or cardboard boxes)
Ovaltine (in press-in top tins or cardboard boxes)
Cocoa in press-in top cans or cellophane bags not in excess of one-half (½) pound
Sugar in paper bags or cardboard boxes not in excess of 1 pound.
Saccharin
Seasoning materials, except pepper
Banana flakes, dried ripe bananas, and similar products
Roasted soy beans
Dried figs (in cellophane packages or cardboard containers)
Dates (in cellophane packages or cardboard containers)
Meal, flour, or various mixes to be used for baking or cooking such as Bisquick, gingerbread mix, pudding mix, muffin mix, pancake flour
Precooked beans
Powdered eggs
Powdered milk
Garden seeds
Dried pudding

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

(Revised 1 August 1944)

TOBACCO MAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The German Government does not permit tobacco or tobacco products to be included in next of kin parcels to United States prisoners of war or civilian internees. However, a special committee made up of representatives of the War, Navy, and State Departments, Foreign Economic Administration, Post Office Department, Office of Censorship, and the American Red Cross has made arrangements with the tobacco companies listed below, whereby tobacco products may be forwarded, postage free, by these companies directly to the United States prisoner of war or civilian internee whose name is imprinted on the enclosed W. D., P. M. G. Form No. 26 and order, Form No. 26A.

In using the two tobacco labels, Form No. 26, be sure to detach them at the perforation from Form No. 19 which is the parcel label, the use of which is described in "Parcel Mailing Instructions."

Each tobacco label, Form No. 26, will permit the sending of *two units* as shown below, and must be forwarded to the tobacco company selected, accompanied by one properly filled out order, Form No. 26A (enclosed), with money order in the amount of the total purchase payable to the company selected.

A *unit* consists of 3 cartons cigarettes, or 100 cigars, or 24 ounces chewing or smoking tobacco, unless otherwise stated. Each label, Form No. 26, and order, Form No. 26A, may be used for either one or two units in ordering. You may order 3 or 6 cartons of cigarettes or the equivalent in other kinds of tobacco for each of the labels, Form No. 26, and orders, Form No. 26A, for one type of tobacco only.

DO NOT fill in your name and address under the word "Sender" on Form No. 26 as this space is for use by the company you select. Fill in order, Form No. 26A, only, and attach thereto label, Form No. 26, with your money order remittance and mail to the tobacco company. The prices quoted below are made possible by the exclusion of internal revenue taxes and represent the cost price to the tobacco companies on the items listed.

TOBACCO COMPANY NAME AND ADDRESS	ITEM NO.	NAME OF BRAND	PRICE 3 CARTONS CIGARETTES	PRICE 100 CIGARS	PRICE 24 OUNCES (Unless Otherwise Noted) OF SMOKING TOBACCO	PRICE 24 OUNCES (Unless Otherwise Noted) OF CHEWING TOBACCO
R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. Winston-Salem, N. C.	1	Camels	\$1.47			
	2	Prince Albert			\$0.82	
	3	Apple				(32-oz) \$0.78
	4	Day's Work				(28-oz) .55
American Tobacco Co. 111 Fifth Avenue New York City, N. Y.	5	Lucky Strike	1.35			
	6	Herbert Tareyton	1.55			
	7	Bull Durham			(21-oz) .56	
	8	Half & Half			.86	
	9	Roi Tan		\$3.74		
	10	Piper Heidsieck				1.22
Mail Pouch Tobacco Co. Wheeling, W. Va.	11	Mail Pouch				(19½-oz) .80
Liggett & Meyers Tobacco Co. 630 Fifth Avenue New York City, N. Y.	12	Chesterfield	1.47			
	13	Piedmont	1.47			
	14	Fatima	1.47			
	15	Granger R. C.			(19½-oz) .60	
	16	Velvet			.81	
	17	Dukes			.55	
	18	Spark Plug				(28-oz) .58
	19	Star				.57
	20	Horse Shoe				.57
	21	Union Standard				(28-oz) .54
Philip Morris & Co., Ltd. 119 Fifth Avenue New York City, N. Y.	22	Philip Morris	1.41			
	23	Dunhill Major	1.41			
	24	Revelation			(30-oz) 2.31	
	25	Bond Street			(19½-oz) 1.13	
P. Lorillard Co., Inc. 119 West 40th Street New York City, N. Y.	26	Old Gold	1.35			
	27	Friends			(19½-oz) .63	
	28	Beech-Nut				.58
	29	Climax "C"				(22-oz) .64
Simpson, Studwell & Swick, Ltd. 154 West 14th Street New York City, N. Y.	30	Sano	3.00			
	31	Sheffield	1.50			
	32	Chukker Rounds	1.50			
	33	Sano (Pipe)			(27-oz) 3.50	
	34	Sano Belvedere		7.34		
Riggio Tobacco Corp. 630 Furman Street Brooklyn, N. Y.	35	Regent (King size) (per 400 Cigarettes).	1.50			
	36	Regent Round (Cork tip) (per 400 Cigarettes).	1.50			
Stephano Bros. 1014 Walnut Street Philadelphia, Pa.	37	Marvels	.80			
	38	Rameses	2.40			
Taylor Bros., Inc. Winston-Salem, N. C.	39	Ripe Peaches				(32-oz) .76
	40	Bull of Woods				(32-oz) .78
	41	Red Coon				(32-oz) .80
	42	Lucky Joe				(24-oz) .70
	43	Taylor Made				(32-oz) 1.20
	44	Favorite				(32-oz) 1.40
Benson & Hedges 435 Fifth Avenue New York City, N. Y.	45	Virginia Rounds	2.28			
	46	Parliaments	3.21			
	47	Debs	2.28			
	48	No. 1 Turkish	3.98			



AMERICAN RED CROSS

OTTAWA COUNTY CHAPTER

Masonic Temple Building
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

Mr. and Mrs. LaPenna Family
Grand Haven, Michigan

March 4, 1945

My dear Friends:

Please permit us to take this opportunity to invite you to a special meeting for the Next-of Kin of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. This meeting will take place in the Masonic club rooms, in the same building where we have the Red Cross offices, next Friday March 9, at 7:30 P.M.

This promises to be a very interesting meeting for us all. We are arranging a display of the Red Cross POW food parcels and camp activities. Latest information on developments should be helpful.

The program will be very informal. We should like very much to have you bring your letters and clippings along. Perhaps your letters contain hopeful news which we feel will be encouraging to us all. Such an exchange of information in our common problems on POW will be of inestimable value for us all in these days of patient waiting. So come, let us share with one another our burdens and our hopes in this informal get-to-gether. And, should meetings of this kind fill a helpful place in your life we shall be happy to arrange for more.

Hoping to see you next Friday, we remain

Sincerely and helpfully yours,

Victor Felten, Chairman POW

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1945

DEAR TONY;

WELL HOW HAVE YOU BEEN
THESE DAYS? FINE, WE HOPE. WE
ARE ALL WELL HERE. SPRING IS
REALLY HERE. IT'S SO NICE OUT WE
DON'T HAVE TO WEAR COATS.
WE ALL WENT TO MASS THIS
MORNING EXCEPT BOBBE AND
PAMELA. BOBBE IS SO NAUGHTY
IN CHURCH. JOE SHINNED THE
CAR UP TODAY. IT LOOKS SO
NICE. JOE IS HAVING TROUBLE
WITH HIS FEET. HE'S GOT LARGE
CALOUSES ON THE BOTTOM OF
THEM. I RATHER THINK HE WILL
GO SEE A DOCTOR ABOUT THEM.
HE IS HAVING A COUPLE OF
CAVITIES IN HIS TEETH FIXED.
BOBBE IS SLEEPING NOW. SHE
HAS HER HAIR ALL CURLED UP.
ANGIE PUT IT UP IN PIN CURLS
LAST NIGHT. TODAY SHE IS
GOING TO THE SHOW. PAMELA IS
OUTSIDE SLEEPING IN HER BUGGY.
WE HEARD FROM GENE THE
OTHER DAY. WE DON'T HEAR
FROM HIM SO OFTEN ANY-
MORE AS HE IS NOW IN
ACTIVE DUTY. WELL TONY THINGS
ARE SAME AS EVER HERE IN

TOP PANEL

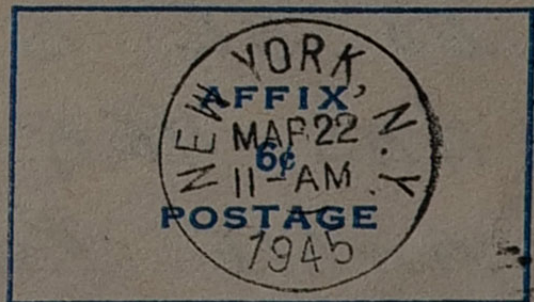
GRAND HAVEN. WE ARE ALL
LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY
WHEN WE SEE YOU HOME AGAIN.
FOR NOW WE WILL CLOSE.
OUR PRAYERS ARE THOUGHTS ARE
ALWAYS WITH YOU. WE ALL SEND
OUR LOVE, AFFECTIONATELY,
YOUR FOLKS; MOM, POP, JOE,
BOBBE, ANGIE AND PAMELA

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
1360 FULTON STREET
MR. FRANK LAPINA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. 4348
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND NO. STALAG LUFT, 4

SUBSIDIARY CAMP NO.

12,605

COUNTRY

GERMANY

U. S. CENSOR

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPORTANT: FOR PRISONERS IN GERMAN HANDS THE PRISONER OF WAR NUMBER SHOULD

TELEPHONE BARCLAY 7-3900
CABLE ADDRESS: "ORTHODOX"

LAMONT, CORLISS & COMPANY

BRANCHES

BOSTON BUFFALO CHICAGO CLEVELAND DETROIT
LOS ANGELES MINNEAPOLIS PHILADELPHIA PITTSBURGH
SAN FRANCISCO SEATTLE ST. LOUIS TORONTO

60 HUDSON STREET
NEW YORK 13, N. Y.

March 26, 1945

Mrs. Margaret Lapina
1350 Fulton Street
Grand Haven, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Lapina:

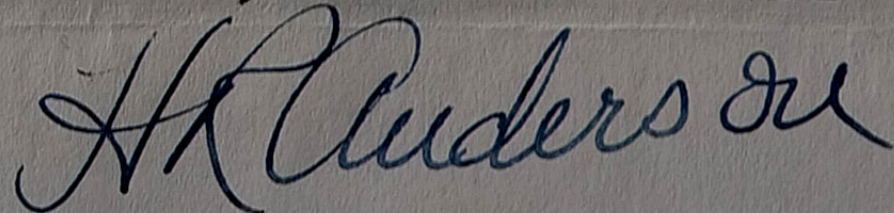
We are attaching herewith the Prisoner of War label which you mailed to us last week, as we cannot send chocolate directly to a Prisoner of War. Then too, we would not want to use this label to send one box of chocolate.

No doubt you can and will be glad to make up a package to the limited eleven pound weight.

However, we are forwarding to you, under separate cover, one box of Nestle's All-Weather chocolate which you can include in your Next of Kin package.

Very truly yours,

LAMONT, CORLISS & COMPANY



H. R. Anderson
Service Department

HRA:cph
att.

WRITE VERY CLEARLY WITHIN THE LINES. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
CENSORSHIP, LETTERS SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

SATURDAY-MARCH 24, 1945

DEAR TONY;

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN LATELY?
WE SURE DO HOPE YOU ARE WELL.
WE ARE ALL FINE HERE. MOM
AND ANGIE HAVE HAD A COLO,
BUT IT'S REAL WARM OUT TO-
DAY AND OUR COLOS SHOULD CLEAR
OUT. BOBBE IS SLEEPING NOW.
SHE'S OUTSIDE A LOT LATELY.
MOM MADE HER A RED
CAPE FOR EASTER AND DOES
SHE LOOK CUTE IN IT. SHE
HAS A NEW HAT AND PURSE
AND SHE'S GOING TO BE ALL
DRESSED UP FOR EASTER.
THE OTHER DAY WE SENT
YOU SOME PARCELS. ONE CON-
TAINED CANDY-ONE CIGARETTES
AND ONE SMOKING TOBACCO.
HOPE YOU GET THEM AND
YOU CAN USE THEM. WE DON'T
HAVE OUR CHOICE OF THINGS
TO SEND YOU, WE HAVE TO SEND
WHAT THEY TELL US. THAT'S
THE REASON FOR THE SMOGES
AND YOU DON'T SMOKE. JOE
WENT TO SEE SOME BOXING
MATCHES IN GRAND RAPIDS
YESTERDAY. HE REALLY EN-
JOYED HIMSELF. HE WENT

TOP PANEL

WITH BOEVE AND SOME OF THE
GUYS. WELL TONY I GUESS THAT'S
ABOUT ALL FOR TODAY. WE HAVEN'T
HEARD FROM YOU FOR THREE WEEKS.
HOPE YOU ARE GETTING OUR
MAIL. WE ARE ALL THINKING
OF YOU AND SEND OUR LOVE.
AFFECTIONATELY, YOUR FOLKS
MOM, POP, JOE, BOBBE, ANGIE AND PAM

6 RANO HAVEN, MICH.

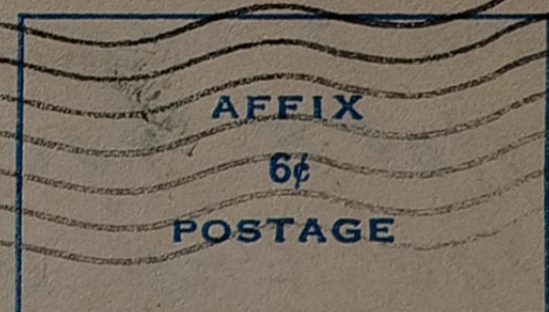
1350 FULTON ST.

M. R. FRANK LAPENNA

FROM (SENDER'S FULL NAME AND ADDRESS)

PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



RANK AND NAME SGT. ANTHONY LAPINA
(CAPITAL LETTERS) UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. 4348
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. STALAG 13

SUBSIDIARY CAMP No.

COUNTRY

GERMANY

11045
U.S. CENSOR

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

April 5/1945.

My dear Mrs La Penna,

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter we received from Mr King of Ripon who received it from Mrs Dwyer of Cal. who received it from Mrs Bivins the first pilot's wife. Did Mr King send you the names of the other ³ crew members, he sent them to us if you would like them I'll send them to you.

This letter is just contrary to the Gov't report and we have been wondering if you have ever gotten any word from your son. So many people around here are hearing from the boys who are prisoners. We are hoping that when your son gets back he will be able to tell us more of what happened.

Praying that all this will soon be over, I am, sincerely

Mrs Myrtle Green



PRISONERS OF WAR BULLETIN

Published by the American National Red Cross for the Relatives of American Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees

VOL. 3, NO. 5

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 1945

Reports on German Camps

With events inside Germany occurring at such speed that even the daily newspapers are barely able to keep the record up to date, readers will appreciate that a monthly publication which tries to keep abreast of changes in the prisoner of war picture is now laboring under a great handicap. PRISONERS OF WAR BULLETIN, moreover, must be quite sure of the facts it reports. The time element in a publication of this character is a less important factor than strict accuracy or balance.

Our main source of information on camp conditions, movements of prisoners, and delivery of relief supplies is the International Committee of the Red Cross, which is not a news gathering organization. Its major functions now are to get the supplies into the hands of prisoners of war, and to urge belligerents in every way possible to comply with the provisions of the Geneva Convention. Its entire staff is working literally day and night to perform these tasks, and, when all the difficulties are taken into consideration, it is achieving a remarkable degree of success.

Recent instances of flagrant violations of the Convention by Germany have been reported in the newspapers. These are unfortunate and deplorable, but, at the same time, it may be noted that the German authorities in some instances have done more than was required of them under the Convention in facilitating the delivery of relief supplies to prisoners in Germany. There are now several hundred Red Cross trucks, traveling under German escort and driven, in many cases, by Allied prisoners of war, carrying out their relief mission right in the heart of the enemy's territory. The architects of the Geneva Convention could never have foreseen such a situation as has developed inside Germany, but the guardians of the Convention are doing everything humanly possible to meet it.—Editor.

Stalag VII A

The total camp strength at Stalag VII A, Moosburg, when visited by a Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross on January 27, was 77,249, of whom 14,943 were in the base camp. The remainder were on work detachments. The total of 77,249 included 42 American officers, 238 noncoms, 5,708 enlisted men, and 3 medical officers. Since January 27, however, many Americans from camps in the east, and particularly from Stalag Luft III, have reached Stalag VII A, and cables received in March stated the camp strength exceeded 100,000. During March large shipments of food and other supplies reached Stalag VII A from International Red

Cross warehouses in Switzerland, both by train and by truck convoys, to meet the rapidly growing need.

On January 27 the Americans at Stalag VII A had a five weeks' reserve of standard food packages, but new arrivals at the camp quickly disposed of this reserve supply. The principal grievances of the men at the end of January were reported to be overcrowding, which has since grown worse, lack of fuel for cooking, and inadequate bathing facilities. The camp theater was being transformed to accommodate new arrivals.

Detachments of from 1,000 to 2,000 men were sent daily (Sundays excepted) by train from Stalag VII A to work in Munich. They re-

turned by train the same day, travel time and work consuming about 12 hours.

Stalags V A and V B

On January 9 an International Red Cross Delegate visited Stalag V B, at Villingen, in southwest Germany not far from the Swiss border. The camp then held 479 Americans in transit from the western front. The men had reached Stalag V B, the Delegate's report stated, in an exhausted condition after a four-day hike. From Stalag V B American prisoners were being transferred to Stalag V A, at Ludwigsburg, in the vicinity of Stuttgart.

A later report from the Interna-



A truck convoy entering Germany, from Switzerland, with Red Cross supplies for prisoners of war. The trucks are painted white to increase visibility. They also carry the Red Cross emblem and the flag of Switzerland to ensure protection.

HEADQUARTERS
CAMP RAMP
NORTHERN DISTRICT, NBS
COM Z, ETOUSA

APO 562
1 May 1945

Surgeon's
Bulletin

T O O O U R R A M P S

T A K E T H E D O C T O R ' S A D V I C E

The Medical Department welcomes you -- with an armful of pills and paregoric! You have just been liberated from your enemy, the Germans. It is up to you now to liberate yourselves from your new enemy, -- your appetite and your digestive system.

After eating here several times you may begin to wonder what the score is, why the medics won't let you gorge yourself with doughnuts and hotdogs complete with mustard and sauerkraut, about which you must have dreamed for months. You may have begun to wonder why the mess supervisors won't let you come back for seconds when you are still hungry. There's a reason for it!

Most of you have been on a starvation diet for months. A regular diet consisting of coarse German Bread and watery soup when taken over a period of weeks and months does something to your stomach, digestive system, and entire body. You have lost tremendous weight, there have been changes in your digestive system, your skin, and other organs. You have become weak and are susceptible to diseases. You almost all have the G.I.'s.

The reason is that you lack vitamins and you have lost the proteins so necessary in building healthy, solid tissues and muscles. The lining of your stomach is sore, delicate, inflamed, and irritated. Your stomach has shrunk.

If you overload that weak, small, sore stomach of yours you will become acutely ill. Your belly will become swollen and painful. You will have cramps and your diarrhea will be much worse. Some of you will have to be hospitalized and even become very seriously ill. You must overcome this terrible craving of yours and curb your appetites. You must realize that to become well quickly and get back to normal you must eat small feedings and at frequent intervals until gradually you can once again tolerate a normal diet. The food you will be served is good and you will get more than enough. If you get hungry between meals go to the Red Cross for cocoa and egg-nog. Just don't drink too much. The first kitchen you will go to will feed you a soft, bland, non-irritating diet. Your next kitchen will give you a diet which approaches normal. Know this for your own good.

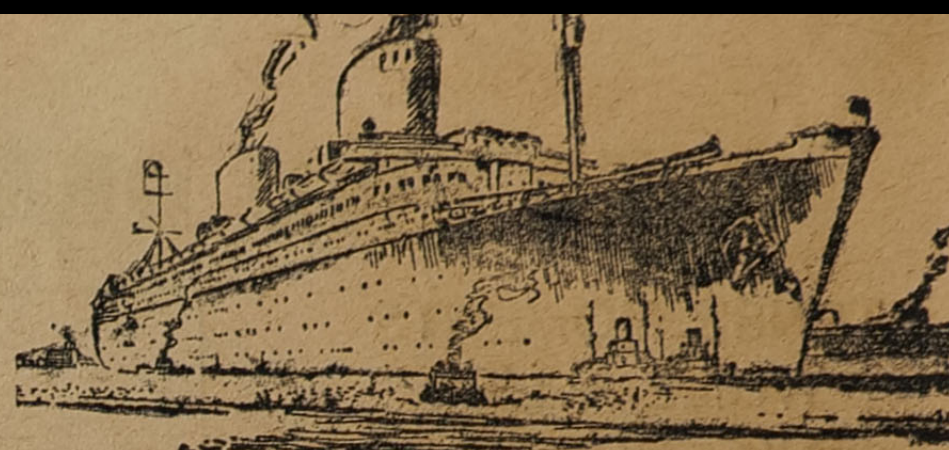
The Medical Department advises you to obey the following rules and build yourselves gradually to the point where you can once again eat anything you want and as much as you want, without getting severely ill:

1. Eat only as much as you are given in the chow line.
2. Don't come back for seconds.
3. Take the vitamin pills that are given to you in the mess line (and swallow them).
4. Go to the Red Cross for egg-nogg or cocoa between meals if you get hungry. Don't drink more than one cup.
5. Don't overeat. If you overload your small stomach you will get sick.
6. Don't eat candy, peanuts, doughnuts, frankfurters, port, rich gravies, liquor, spicy foods, or anything that you know will make you sick.
7. There are three dispensaries in each of the three areas where you will bivouac. As you move from one area to the other, go to the dispensary in that area. Sick Call will be held between 0800 - 1700 hours. After that come only for an emergency. If you have trouble see your Medical Officer. He will be glad to help you.

For the Camp Surgeon:

Handwritten signature
MALLACE W. BLANK,
CWO, USA,
Adjutant.

BARTH



HARD TIMES

Vol 1 No. 1 LAST 1 SATURDAY MAY 5th 1945 PRICE 1 D- BAR.

Editor: FIL E. R. INKPEN

Assoc: 1st Lt N. GIDDINGS

Publisher: 1st Lt D. MacDONALD

Printing: FILT J. D. WHITE

RUSSKY COME!

As seen by LOWELL BENNET, I. N. S. War Correspondent.

RELIEVED!

Colonel Zemke intended to write this appreciation of the relief of Stalag Luft I, but unfortunately necessary duties have made this impossible. He has, in his own words, "taken a powder" to make final arrangements with the relieving Soviet forces.

It is therefore my privilege to introduce this Memorial Edition of the BARTH HARD TIMES. During the successes, reverses and stagnant periods encountered during this struggle, our newspaper has faithfully recorded the German war communiques and expanded upon them in capable editorials.

With the redemption of a continent, our exile is ended. Our barbound community will soon be a memory. So, on behalf of Colonel Hubert Zemke and myself, to all our fellow-kriegies: GOOD LUCK!

G./C. C. T. Weir.



WHAT D'YE KNOW- JOE!!

BRAITHWAITE FINDS UNCLE JOE

Contacts Russian Infantryman at Crossroads
Five miles South of Stalag One.

Major Braithwaite and Sgt Korson, our Stalag scouts, raced out to a cross-roads 5 miles south of Barth with the order, "find Uncle Joe". This was 8 p. m., May 1.

They searched southward, defying a rumored Russian curfew which was about

as brief and emphatic as their own order: "EVERYONE stay put; anyone seen moving will be shot on sight."

Meanwhile, Wing Commander Blackburn's telephone crew were ringing numbers in Stralsund, hoping a Russian would

answer the phone and we could break the big news of our presence. "Try the mayor," they asked the girl (who was still working Barth's phone exchange). "Not a chance," said she. "Barth's mayor poisoned himself and Stralsund's mayor has sprouted wings."

Scouts Braithwaite and Korson pushed on 3 miles. The scenery: thousands of people everywhere, sitting down, waiting.



PRISONERS OF WAR BULLETIN

Published by the American National Red Cross for the Relatives of American Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees

VOL. 3, NO. 6

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUNE 1945

Liberated Prisoners of War from Germany

By Col. George F. Herbert, AGD Chief, Casualty Branch

As the Allied forces swept victoriously through Germany and the lands occupied by its forces, many thousands of prisoners of war were freed from German camps. American soldiers, jubilant with freedom, knew that Uncle Sam would be well prepared to care for them. The War Department and the theater commanders recognized this fact long before the camps were liberated, and made provisions for the welfare of these men who had been prisoners of war.

Almost immediately after being liberated, many were flown to large camps in the European Theater of Operations especially set up to receive them. At these assembly centers a thorough physical examination is given and the best food the Army has to offer is served them. New uniforms are distributed and partial payments are made from the pay which has accumulated while they have been prisoners of war. Recreation is provided while they await return to the United States. But they do not wait long, for these men have *priority in returning* to the United States over all other military personnel with the exception of the sick and wounded. In fact, many of them are returned by air whenever air transportation is available.

In the meantime, the families at home are passing around the telegram received from the Adjutant General informing them of their son's or husband's return to military control. These telegrams are dispatched to families immediately upon receipt of such information in the War Department, and a second telegram is sent giving the news of expected arrival in the United States as soon as it is learned that certain groups of men are returning. The men themselves are given an oppor-

tunity, through the Red Cross, to send a message home prior to their departure from overseas, wherever communication facilities permit.

The Journey Home

Aboard ship these men are served the best of meals. When the ship arrives at its destination in the United States the liberated prisoners are immediately debarked and transported to the staging area connected with the port of debarkation. The commander of the port welcomes the men personally on behalf of the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen.

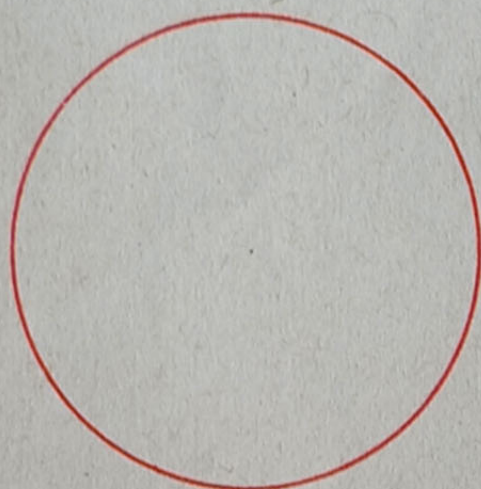
George C. Marshall, and shortly thereafter dispatches a safe-arrival message to the next of kin of the men who arrived. A band usually strikes up a military air. At a recent docking, the strains of "God Bless America" brought accompanying words from the men, sung with a fervor and heartfelt emphasis that would be hard to match. After termination of the welcoming ceremonies the men are given a physical screening examination and assigned barracks in which freshly made beds await them.

(Continued on page 12)



Liberated American prisoners, after receiving release kits at an assembly center in France, tell their experiences to a Red Cross worker. Names as given, left to right: Pvt. Wallace Butterfield, Pfc. William M. Smith, Pvt. Blair A. Colby, Pfc. Aubrey Rogers, Pfc. Harry R. Shaw, Jr., and Miss Rosanne Coyle.

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO: Mrs. Frank CAPORINA
1350 Fulton St.
Grand Haven,
Michigan

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

16168073.
Sgt Anthony CAPORINA
1350 Fulton St.
Grand Haven, Mich

(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Mother.

I regret to inform you we haven't left here as yet. I thought we would be leaving today, the 8th of June, but we were told we would not leave for a couple more days. We are supposed to get a fast boat back to the states, so it probably won't take over a week when we finally leave. I'll attempt to write to you before I leave. I still am feeling as well as ever. We really get good food here. I don't go to breakfast any more, I sleep till noon every day. I guess I'm getting lazier every day. I hope I'm home by the 4th of July. I think I will be if we leave here within the next few days. Give my regards to every one, and give my love to Susy & Uncle Peter. I'll attempt to write again soon, until then - love

Tony.

P.S. - Give my love to Barb,
and tell her to be a good little girl.

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE
ADDRESS AT TOP?

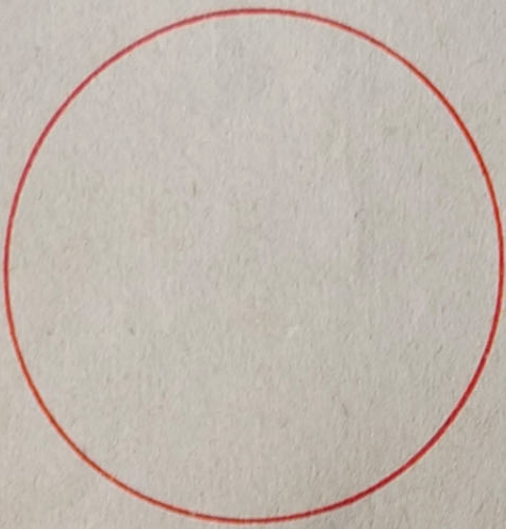
18

REPLY BY
V...-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE
ADDRESS AT TOP?

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1 1943 16-28143-5

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO:

Mrs. FRANK LAPENNA

1350 Fulton St.

Grand Haven,

Michigan

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

Sgt. Anthony LAPINA

1616 8073

1350 Fulton St.

Grand Haven, Michigan

(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Mother -

JUNE, 9-45

Here I am still in France. I didn't think I would be writing to you again for a while, but due to a delay beyond our control we won't be moving for a couple more days. I just got up, and I missed breakfast again. I guess it's around dinner time now. I have been having trouble with my watch since I left Germany, we had to dig fox holes just before the Russians came, we expected the Germans to put up a fight, but they didn't, anyway I got sand in my watch and it hasn't been working too well since. I hear the weather has been pretty cold in Michigan, I hope it warms up before I get home. I'll probably be home around the 4th of July or a little later. We go from New York to Sheridan in Chicago. We aren't supposed to remain there longer than three days then home for 60 days. Well I'm having a terrible time with this pen so I'll close for now. Give my regards to everyone and tell them I'll be home soon, I hope! Tell Barb I'll take her swinging every day when I get home. I hope Angie is home now, it would be nice to be home with the entire family, that is if Joe hasn't enlisted. Well that's all for now.

P.S. You probably heard ^{ex} German POW's will be used in the Jap war. That's

Love,
Tony

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

18

REPLY BY
V---MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1943 16-28143-5

Wednesday June 13

Dear Tony:

When you receive this you should be home having a big old time getting drunk, farting around with the women and just having a big old time in general. Boy! What a snow job you will be able to give the fair sex.

I guess you know you caused me a hell of a lot of worry. I got four gray hairs on your account. That will cost you four beers when I get home.

I have received a couple letters from Ted during the last month. At the present he is on Okinawa where he says things are a bit rough at times. I certainly hope they send him home soon for he sure has done his part in this mess. Jack St John is either over here or on his way. I haven't heard from ~~the~~ Jack in quite a while now.

I got in the best outfit in this neck of the woods. It isn't liked very well by the other groups but there aren't a great many boys in the other groups that wouldn't like to be in it. It is part of the 5th air force and is known as the "Jolly Rogers."

So far we have had strikes on China, Borneo and Formosa. The only target that has proven rather tough so far is Formosa. When they get peed off at us they can throw up numerous amounts of the black clouds with which you are no doubt very well acquainted.

Right now we are operating out of place known as the Philippines. It's not a bad place at times ~~it~~ it gets rather hot and the mosquitoes prove to be a problem but aside from that it's not a bad place. They say there are some good looking women in the Philippines but I guess I'm on the wrong island.

The food over ³ here could be rated as P.P. although they get a ~~stroke~~ every once in a while and produce a series of good meals. The majority of the food is dehydrated and I'm beginning to have a dehydrated look. Oh well! What the hell, I could go without eating for a week.

They work on a point system over here. We get points for glee holes, hours etcetera. One hundred points are required ~~to~~ and upon the acquiring of same we are returned to the promised land. Thus far I have 50 points and 31 missions.

Well sorry I'm ordering you to have one hell of a time while your home. If you get up to Grand Rapids and want to take out a real beautiful gal (no shit) get in touch with Eleanor Hilt, 2443 Bufford Ave. just a minute & I'll look up her telephone no. — 73697. Tell her you know me and if she doesn't throw you out when you mention that your in like

Flagn. She is a hell of a lot better looking than anything they have in D.H. If you contact her tell her I'm going paddle her all if she doesn't write one of these days. No telling how far you can go.

After you have been home a week or so drop me a line — you ought to be relieved up by that time. Take it easy old buddy & don't go getting married.

Your Pal
Jack

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

GP93 FT16=CAMPPATRICK HENRY VIR 21

MRS FRANK LAPENNA=

1350 FULTON ST

045 JUN 21 PM 7 56

ARRIVED SAFELY EXPECT TO SEE YOU SOON DONT ATTEMPT TO
CONTACT OR WRITE ME LOVE=

ANTHONY

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

BRING YOUR TROUBLES TO US—
IT MAY NOT HELP BUT WE GOT TO EAT, DON'T WE?
CAN'T LIVE ON LOVE, YOU KNOW.

HIGH-CLASS LOVE LETTERS WRIT
BY CAZANOVA SCHMALTZ. THEY'RE
SO HOT YOU'LL NEED ASBESTOS
ENVELOPES. (AND A GOOD LAWYER)



THE LOVESICK-AID SOCIETY

Lovely Advice at a Lovely Price

FOUNDED IN 1883 BY I. BAREFAX—TO GUIDE THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW THE ANSWERS
Affiliated with the Society for Recapturing Indiscreet Love Letters
"Steep as the Fees are, they're Cheaper than Going to Court".



HEADQUARTERS:
HONEYMOON HOVEL
LOVER'S LANE
22 DIVINE AVENUE
TRALALA, LA.

TELEPHONE—
AW, WRITE US A LETTER—
MAYBE WE CAN SUE.

ARE YOU BLUE?
REPULSIVE COLOR, ISN'T IT!

... Dealers In ...
FEATHERS FOR LOVE NESTS,
MOTHBALLS FOR HOPE CHEST,
FIRE TONGS FOR LOVER'S
NOTES,
GOOEY QUOTES FROM
LOVESICK POETS,
MENDING KITS FOR BROKEN
HEARTS,
OINTMENT FOR WOUNDS FROM
CUPID'S DARTS,
SMELLING SALTS FOR MAIDEN
SWOONS,
CAMOFLAGE OR GRUESOME
GOONS,
SPRAY GUNS OR PESKY LITTLE
LOVE BUGS,
LINIMENT FOR TOO TOO
ZEALOUS HUGS.

Typical Love Knots
We Have Untied

HARRIED HARRY
WRITES—

"I am drinking to for-
get a woman who is
driving me to drink, but
now I've forgotten who
she is. What shall I do?"

OUR REPLY—

"Send \$10 by return mail
and we'll think of SOME-
THING."

FANNY X. TENSIVE
WRITES—

"I am desperately in love
with a man 90 years old.
The only thing that keeps
me from marrying him is
that he is a millionaire
and I refuse to marry for
money. What shall I do?"

OUR REPLY—

"See a psychiatrist."
"P. S. Please wire us his
name and address."

7-2-45

OFFICE OF
CUPID'S
LITTLE HELPER

★

Hija Tony,
Gosh I was glad to
hear from you. Boy! we
were all plenty worried
about you fella. I don't
mind telling you that when
your folks found out you
were a P.W. & then that
you were liberated I shouted
for joy when I heard.
You know Tony, when you
were reported missing, it
brought this war closer
to home than anything else
ever could. Sure I knew
a lot of the other fellas
from S. It. that were

TELL US YOUR DEEPEST SECRETS IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE
(Don't be Bashful — We Don't Blush Easily)

P. S. ALL LETTERS PRINTED IN "TOO TOO TRUE STORY" MAGAZINE
GET THE THRILL OF SEEING YOUR NAME IN PRINT

killed etc. but they weren't a good
buddie like you are and I'd forgotten
all about them but not you.

Now to other things! I'm going
to school here to be an aerial Eng.
on a B-17-G. It's easy as heck.
I'm in instruments right now.
That's why I'm making so many
mistakes in spelling. (OUT OF INK) We
have school from 0800 to 1630 then
an hour of retreat, P.T., orientation
or something every afternoon. This
field is a transition field for 17's
and is run by O.L.T.'s & Combat returnees.
O.L.T. (on the line trainees) or junior birdmen
with clipped wings. I'll get my
furlough (22 days) Aug. 1, I'm pretty
sure! But listen! Tony don't tell anyone.
I may get a hop home before
then, some of these week ends as
there's a Lt. that goes home to
South Bend every weekend. Boy we
will sure have a time when I
get there. Well I'll close for
now boy and take it easy!

Your Buddie,
J.B.

Wednesday July 11

Dear Honorable Head:

I received your letter yesterday and it sure seemed good to hear from you, Sarge! Chicken shit that's me!

Boy what a deal you must have in dear old Grand Haven. I can just see those women running around shouting "Tony's home." Do some good for me, hey Pal! When your sitting drinking a beer with some beautiful gal drink one for me, huh?

I sure would like to have something happen to me like what happened to you at the beach. "My aching back," what a life you must be leading but hell you deserve it.

What in hell were all those guys you mentioned doing home? are they all coming back from the European theater?

Things are coming along fine over here. I can't say anything about operations or the points I have but with another two or three months of

flying and I should be finished. If I get through it all I should be home sometime around Xmas.

Don't forget when your get sick of the home town stuff your run up to Grand Rapids and look up this Eleanor Hilt. She is really nice and you will probably have a lot of fun.

I haven't heard from Ted now for quite awhile. I wrote him the other day to find out what was going on. I may get a chance to see him soon, as he may be coming this way.

I have a big deal all worked up so I can go duck hunting tomorrow. It's something to get me off the rack to which I have become so firmly attached these past few months.

This is a hell of a letter but maybe I can do better next time. Have a good time, your little squirt.

Your Pal
Jack

P.S. - Thanks for going to see Mom & Dad.

July 14th, 1945
Berwyn, Ill.

Hello Sam:

Remember you? How could I help, but remember you! I received your letter today, and I can't even begin to tell you how happy I am to know you are safe, and home for sixty days.

Yes, I received your package back plus about six letters. I learned from Art that you were a B.W., but after that I didn't know just what happened. I asked about you several times, but Art didn't seem to know either, he didn't know in his last letter either.

I just can't seem to believe it's really you I'm writing to, but I am glad.

~ ~

You say you were in Chicago, and didn't call. I'm sorry you didn't. Even though I have never met you I feel as though we have been friends for ages. I know if Art liked you, and I know he did I will to. Yes when you do come to Chicago again please do call. Perhaps some evening for dinner mother and dad both would enjoy meeting you. The number is Berwyn 610.

I'll bring this letter to a close looking forward to seeing you soon. Loads of luck for those sixty days, and do enjoy them.

Love Sam,

Escher

"P.S."

It's still
hard to believe!

July 17/1945

bits from
barb

Dear Tony,

I got your letter today, and I, too, am writing back in a hurry. You had already written when I saw you Monday - and here I asked you if you'd gotten my letter, not dreaming that you'd already answered it.

Were you disappointed to see me, or surprised, or shocked, or what was it? I was glad to see you - and you look damn good.

My girl friend from Pontiac was here for a week, and so Monday afternoon we took my grandmother home and stopped at Grand Haven a while. That's when I saw you.

II

bits from
barb

Hardy's. It wouldn't work any where else. I thought Halsey worked at Sears? He used to, I know.

Goodness, Tony, if I could only believe all that slarny that's thrown around. But I know you tell the same thing to all the gals, so I don't read your letters more than 4 or 5 times, cause if I do, I get to believing it - and that's no way, is it?

This is pretty short notice, and you probably can't make it, but Friday nite I'm not going to be busy, & I'd like to see you. You'll hardly have time to write back - but if you're in

Gale S. Bolthouse 56
H.S.S. A.C.T. 705
% F.P.O. San Francisco
California



UNITED STATES NAVY

17 July 1945

Hi Ya P.W.;

It sure was good to hear from you. It has been quite a while since those Germans first got their hands on you. Doesn't sound like you have changed, the same old wolf, driving around picking up all the women, giving them a big thrill and then break their hearts by telling them where to go. You want to watch out for those local chicks, I guess they are pretty hard up, but I imagine you eat that up, huh?

Received a letter from Ted, I guess he also has seen quite a bit, he doesn't come right out and say so, but according to the islands he has been on and a little reading between the lines you can read it for yourself.



UNITED STATES NAVY

I myself got 10 letters yesterday when we hit port.

When I was in New Orleans, I found Morris down there and boy did we have some good times. He is provost marshal over a German P.W. camp, and boy do ~~those~~ those bitches hate his guts. I guess he is pretty hard on them.

That picture of me behind the bar was taken in Norfolk. Boy there is a hell of a town!

You want to make the best of that 60 days soon. Knowing you as I do you probably will. ^{How many} points have you got?



UNITED STATES NAVY

Are you going back to State after the war? I have been thinking of going there myself.

Where is this Sand Bar? Is it a dive or a good joint?

I had an idea my dad knew I was taking that wine, but he never said anything. They don't come any better than him.

Well boy give all the women a kiss for me (kisses), maybe a little more so they will be sure to have memories.

Shake it easy and keep cool.

Yours at
"Stud"

P.S. - go by the inside address not the one on the letter.

July 20, 1945

Finschhafen, N.G.

Dear Tony;

What say Slug? It was sure good to hear from you again, and to learn that everything's O.K. (Gads, it's raining like H___.) You couldn't have gotten that rest period at a better time of year, and from what I gather from your letter you're really taking advantage of it. (A lot of rest you'll get in that sixty days)

How are all those little things back there? From the occasional news I receive, I take it that most of the local Babes have gotten married, or are about to become so. Wait until Frankie Martink, Errol Fricano, and the rest of the gang gets back there, that place is going to see some first class wolves,. The first House-party we crash, we'll get sent up the creek, for assault with deadly weapons, or something. How is the resort season this year? I suppose there's plenty of strange stuff laying around on the beach. Have run across any interesting ones? Let's get on the ball fellow.

I'd like to be back there now, getting in a little tennis, getting tanned at the beach, do a little fishing up the river. -little night life, few good drunks. I'll bet the old neighbors will ^{BE} happy when I pull out my trumpet again, and let go with a few of the latest tunes.(?) (Is this kid good, or is he good?--Don't answer that question)

I suppose you've been up to school. Jim and I made the rounds last Oct. We even had a good chat with the Bull, & Babcock. We made an inspection of Camfields, (Representatives of the Army & Navy.) Odle took us through. Gads, the women they've got working there. We went over to St Pats. Talked over old times with Fr Hyland, & Sis. M. Eileen. Did you get a chance to see her?

P.II

Well T. There's not much more to say,. It was a surprise to hear about Stu. Z. Say, have you been up to see our old friends the Landeriges? Mike and I were up there on our last leave. Old Liz has really changed, Dort. K. has 'nt though.(O.K. You can wipe that grin off your face) If you see Holman, tell ^{her} the Army & Navy is getting burned up at her, Jim and I used to receive some pretty interesting letters from her at one time. Don't say anything to her about that though. I write to Jim "Inter-Isle". I hear from him in a couple days that way. If I don't get to see him soon, I won't see him at all until after the war.

This is an Airborne outfit, (supposedly). all we're doing is sitting around waiting for I don't know what. The outfits got a pretty good record up until it became attached to a Bn. Boy I hope we get set up some place soon, so we'll get off some place by ourselves. This is supposed to be a separate Unit. It was never shoved in with other Btry's until it hit this hole. Then the trouble started. Got something to blame for ration shortages, ect, now. When ever something goes wrong we can put the blame on Bn.

Well I'd better close before I get started on something. Give my regards to the family. Hope everyone is in the best of health.

Your Old Buddy

Walt

July 20th, 45
Beverly, Ill.

Dear Soney:

They ought call you Speedo. I received your letter today and I was so glad to hear from you again. Its so good to know your home, and safe, and most of all enjoying your self. That's what counts.

I laughed when you wrote I might be married for Heaven sakes to who?

And as for my not being at this address, well I've lived here all my life, and shall be for a long, long time.

You asked me for a picture Soney I don't have any of just myself, but I'm enclosing one that was taken this winter with my Cousin Roy. He's my Dad's Mother's son. A swell gal.

He was just engaged not so long ago. But you would like him. Art new Roy.

Oh! How grand if Art did get home I can't think of anything I'd enjoy more than seeing you back. Lets hope its soon.

I was out to our Summer home for just a day yesterday oh! it was grand. I got the nicest tan. Mom and Dad are out there so I'm here at home. It isn't to bad. I do work though 8 hours a day. Five days a week. I thought you new that.

How grand you living so close to the lake. Our Summer home is about 120 miles from here. I'm getting my car in January though, its a gift from my Dad. Isn't he grand. Say that's all right having your new outfit. 10 to 1, great. Good for you.

You asked what you could do when you receive your discharge. Well! I really don't know you will enough to give you an answer that would

he would much.

You asked about my dancing yes I do dance, but lately I really haven't done much of it, although I do enjoy it.

There was a time when my night life could be called such, but its so limited now I really don't know any of the places.

Soney, I haven't heard from Art for some time, and I must confess I guess its been my fault. I wrote him a week or so ago though so I

hope to hear from him again soon.

I certainly hope your enjoying your stay at home, and having one swell time.

Well Soney, I'll bring this letter to a close hoping you have time to write again soon.

Always,
Eckie



Lawrence, Kansas
July 23, 1945

Dear Tony:

Hello, Tony, how is the old world treating you by this time? The old U.S.A. surely looks good for a change doesn't it?

I just thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know that I made it back safe and sound and doing as well as could be expected, and I hope you are doing as well.

I received a card from Kenger and his wife a few minutes ago, since I started writing this letter. They are in Kansas City right now and wanted to see me. I don't know whether I can make it or not, but I will try it. I wrote them a letter in California, but I suppose they were in Kansas City at the time. I guess, and haven't received it yet. I would surely like to see the Kengers. If I don't get to see him in Kansas City, they both will probably go to Miami Beach, and I will get to see them both there.

I guess you will go to Miami Beach too, won't you? I have to report there August 31. I still have about a month of freedom left yet before I must put my nose to the grindstone. I went to Wichita all last week, visiting my sister. My brother-in-law works at the Boeing plant. I was out there one day and saw that new big Boeing transport, C-87 or C-97. It is surely a monstrosity. They are really turning out a lot of B-29's now. They really look good, sitting on the ground. They are working on the B-29 now, trying to fix it up to carry two

11,000 pound bombs. I don't know whether they have succeeded or not. How is the weather there in Michigan. Gosh! is it ever hot here. Almost as hot as Louisiana. I sat up till midnight last night waiting for it to cool off enough for me to go to bed.

Have you found out whether you got a promotion after you came down or not. From the notice I got here, I guess we all did, so it looks like you will soon be sporting some slack stripes. I hope so anyway. I also received a check a few days ago for my back pay except my flying pay. I haven't heard a thing about the \$581 that I checked in with the S-2 officer at the base. I guess it just takes time. I got a card some time ago, stating that I had nothing in Kansas City, where our personal possessions are sent to. There was not much left of any value anyway. If I never get it I won't have lost much.

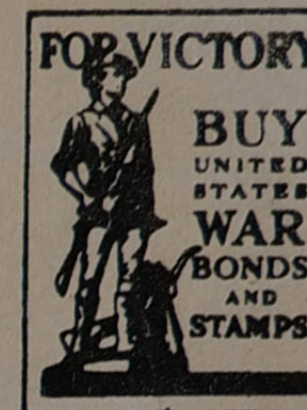
I have been trying to make up my mind whether to go by way of the Rio Grande Valley in South Texas when I go to Florida or not. I would surely like to see the folks there but it should be some out of my way. I thought I could swing around by there on my way to Florida, and cut the trip in two. It would n't be so bad if I can get a Pullman.

Well, Tony, I must close for now. Write when you can.

Phillard

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DPR/ELY/ik/4622

IN REPLY
REFER TO

AGPC-S 201 Kintz, Carl E.
(26 Jul 45) 36,825,755
SUBJECT: Casualty Information

26 July 1945

TO: Sergeant Anthony Lapina 16,168,073
AAF Redistribution Station 1,
Atlantic City, New Jersey

1. War Department records show that the following member(s) of your crew has (~~have~~) been missing in action since 25 October 1944.

<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Kintz, Carl E.	36,825,755	Sergeant

2. You are requested to forward a statement setting forth all information you may have concerning the fate of the above-named. Both your own and hearsay information with the source properly identified should be included. You may be guided in making reply by the following outline which covers information desired.

a. Brief description of action, giving date and place of plane crash or landing.

b. Personal knowledge of what happened to above-named. State where last seen and extent of wounds or injuries, if any. If you witnessed the death of above-named, give date, place and cause of death, place of burial and names of other witnesses.

c. Information concerning fate of above-named received from others. Name source.

3. To expedite necessary action and official notification to the families of those concerned you are authorized to reply direct to this office and not through military channels. A franked envelope is inclosed.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

1 Incl

Mum
Adjutant General



4488

25-50197-8M

Box 326

Coopersville, Michigan

July 26, 1945

Dear Tony,

Your letter was forwarded to me here and I got it this morning. I was glad to hear from you and know that you are alright. I had a letter returned to me saying you ~~were~~ missing in action but Pauline had already told me that you were. I have been up here in Michigan twice since I last heard from you.

This next bit of news probably won't surprise you too much-- I am no longer married. I told you some time ago that it would probably happen. I have a little boy born on my last birthday. That made him almost four months old. At the present time he is boarding out because I have to work. And I can't do that and work at the same time.

I'll bet it really seems good to be home again, doesn't it? I hope you haven't had any ill effects from being a prisoner of war. I thought about you quite a bit and was wondering all the time if you had been found yet. I even thought of writing and asking Pauline, but I just never seemed to find the time.

We have been over to Grand Haven quite a bit lately. The girl I am staying with said we would go over to see you tonight, but I thought it best that I write you first and see whether or not you wanted to see me. You have sixty days so I guess there is still time for me to see you before you go back again. Do you think that you will get a discharge? I know that the point

system doesn't apply to the air corps, but I thought maybe you would get one anyway.

I am supposed to be working so I guess I'd better get working or else when the boss comes in and finds the work not done, I might be out of a job.

Please let me hear from you soon.

As always,

Marge
Marge

29 July 1946

Dear Tony,

My Mother wrote + told me that you were over to our place for my address, so I have been sort of expecting your letter for quite some time now. It sure was good to hear from you.

We got back from one of our cruises a few weeks ago + we are now in port. We have moved our equipment ashore + we are now living on land "army style". It isn't so bad though, at least it's better than living on a ship. I can just picture you on the bottom deck of a transport. Rather than hell isn't it.

You heard right when you asked if I met Nodal out here. It took me damn near all day to find him, but I finally did. He looks just the same as when you last saw him. He has been over here for 25 months now, + from what he says, he will still be here for quite some time. He wears four campaign ribbons + the presidential citation. He has really seen the action too. I wish I could tell you of the places he has been, but the censors would just cut it out.

So far I am getting along pretty good. I am now in my ninth month overseas, + if the ~~last~~ next

It

few months go on fast as the last bunch did, I'll be home in no time.

That's a pretty damn good deal you got under you hit the states. A 65 day leave + assignment in the states. Oh well, I guess you always were lucky.

Did you know that Ernie Schneider is in the same outfit that I am? We have been together for quite some time now, + it looks like we will be together for quite some time.

So far I have met 3 guys from S.H. or Spring Lake. They are: Nodal, Basil Speck, + a guy named Spirit Vander Waagen. Jim Tolson was near us for a while, but I never got around to seeing him. I met Duane Barbour from Congressville when I was in Pearl Harbor, but since then, I have lost track of him.

I've got myself one of those nice Dutch sea-Belles you mentioned. She's really a peep. She has a nice long bang in her nose, which I think, + lips that would make a feyung pan look like a beer cap. Why don't you come out here Tony, + grab one for yourself. They are kind of tan, but after you have been out here for quite a while, they start looking white to you. Come on out, + we'll make it a double date. That is if you can get the car. Ha! Ha! Ha!

Get

How are the gals making out back home Tony, or haven't you noticed. I should think that a guy like you would have taken them all out this time. Or don't they compare with those French + German gals.

Well Tony, this will have to be about all for now so I think I'll close for now. I'll put Bob Nodal's address at the end of this letter so you can write to him if you want to. So long for now, + write again, okay?

your Ole Buddy
Jimmy

Bob's address:

P. F. C. Robert Nodal U.S.M.C.
"A" Btry. 11th 155 Gun. Bn.
70th Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Cal.



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU
601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

IN REPLY REFER TO SPQDK 332.33 (284716)

RTB:IB:vld
8 August 1945

SUBJECT: Disposal of Personal Property

TO: Sgt. Anthony Lapina, 16168073
1350 Fulton Street
Grand Haven, Michigan

1. In accordance with your request, your personal property, which was received at the Army Effects Bureau, is being forwarded to you at the above address.

2. If delivery has not been made within thirty days from this date, this Bureau should be informed to enable tracer.

P. L. Koob
P. L. KOOB
1st Lt., QMC
Officer-in-Charge
SJ Unit

10, Aug. 45.

Dear Tony,

Hi! It sure is the best news to know you are safe & home. We were all doing a lot of worrying about you.

I received your letter a couple of weeks ago, but I was having the time of my life in Manila & didn't get time to write.

I am in the Molucca Group of islands & the climate here is swell. I am with a good outfit too. The Long Ranger is what I am with. The thirteenth air force. I just joined my outfit a few days ago. I think I will have a mission tomorrow. I find out at super time.

As far as pulling rank; you should know how the air Corps. is about that.

I received a letter from Rich. Hempel which was very interesting. I am inclosing that too.

Glad to hear Ed. Haven hasn't changed. I sure have as far as women go. I am a first class wolf now.

It looks like you gave

a lot of the women brakes. Does Leth Owens? How did you make out with Marion Shoemaker?

Well, I almost got married to a lot of girls, but just couldn't seem to take the final plunge. I am happy single more so then if I were married.

That sounds like a good idea to go to school with you & tell after the war. There are some nice women in Mich. state I hear.

Did I tell you I met Joe Davis Jr. in Manila. He is a P.X. ~~Sgt.~~ Sgt. makes good money & all the racket.

Jack Van Hoef is in the Jolly Doggers as we call them. It is said the doggie all the hard work & claim all the credit.

Take cadets if you get a chance Tony. Don't be a sucker & turn that down. It is a good deal. You got a rotten break, but you won't be sorry if you go through cadets. I am going to go through again if I get a chance. Pilot training I mean.

It is nice so many

of the fellows were home when you were. I heard about "The Cow" getting married when I was last home.

No. I did not take Gannon out when I was home. She is a nice kid, but don't seem to want anything to do with me.

It is too bad about Stew Zysk. My ma sent a clipping out of the paper about him.

I guess I will close for now, but write again soon.

your buddy always
Jack.

August 14, 1945

Dear Tony,

Got your letter this morning. I didn't get home in time last night to go to the postoffice so I don't know if it came yesterday or today.

Your letter hardly sounds like you. Maybe it's just because I'm in a bad mood today. I stayed home from work today for two reasons. One was that I wanted to see if I got a letter from you and the other was that it was raining and I didn't feel like bitch-hiking to work in the rain.

Vivian and I went out last night and got feeling kind of high. She couldn't even walk straight.

I suppose Joe has been telling you things about me like he has been telling me about you.

Excuse the writing. I'm trying
to hold the baby and write at the
same time

How about coming up Thursday
night. I'll be right here waiting for
you. Just in case you get this early
enough and can come up Wednesday,
I'll be waiting there too.

Don't try to kid me about those
late hours because we were at your
house at two Sunday morning and
you still weren't in there.

Don't forget - I'll be waiting.
Be good and take it easy -

As always,
Marge

August 15, 1945

Dear Tony;

It certainly is wonderful, isn't it! The war being over! Gosh, it doesn't even seem possible. See but the fellows who are over there are really thankful.

It's 8 A.M. - and here I am writing a letter already! I got up & went to church at 7, and at 10 I'm going on Gardys picnic. It

lasts all day, & is at Pioneer Park. So I thought as

long as I have some time this morning, I'll write to you - so you'll get it quite soon. The fact is -

before Saturday! If you haven't something already

planned, I wish you could
come over Saturday night. Do
you suppose you could make
it? If you can't, it's O.K., and
I'll probably see you later; but
Saturday night would be
swell. Try & let me know,
will you?

Did you have fun at Fruitport
last week? I saw you quite
a few times during the
evening, but I was never
close enough to speak.

I can't think of much
to say - I guess it's too
early in the morning. - So
I'll go over to the mail box
and stick this in.

Take it easy,
and write soon.

Love, Barb

August 1945

Hi Tony:

I received your letter of July 26 yesterday — what a blow. You got those ideas of marriage out of your head, but quick. Oh my gosh if I were only there to look after you. Hang on to that single status until I get home, will you old Pal. Getting a bunch of curves in a bathing suit affect you like that — what a blow!

According to the latest poop I have come to the conclusion the war is over. I imagine I'll be putting Mr. on your letters before long. No telling what will happen to me but I'll probably get shafted one way or the other. Oh well, they have to send me home someday.

I am now someplace in the Ryukyus. As soon as the outfit gets situated I'm going to try my damndest to look up Ted. I sure would like to see him.

We came up here on a boat. Talk about someone being sick —

that was me. I had the GI's plus being ^{sick} sick. With all the good food they served I couldn't eat for five days — what a blow.

Maybe you had better forget about going to see my gal — that's a laugh — in Grand Rapids. I just about have restored friendly relations with her again. I think I'll be a hermit and dis-appoint all the fair sex.

Now that the war is over I have a feeling this place will become something like the states. There are rumors of PT and drill circulating around already. The PT I wouldn't mind but the drill — that's the last straw.

Well stumpy I had better sign off and dash down to the chow hall. Now for gosh sakes don't go getting married on me whatever you do. Take it easy and be good. Say hello to Duer for me.

Your Pal

Jack

P.S. Tell Marion I'll paddle her fanny if she keeps giving you ideas.

August 17, 1945

Dear Tony,

I was hoping you would come up tonight. I knew you wouldn't come last night because there was no mail delivery yesterday. Since Tuesday I've had the feeling that I wouldn't get to see you before you went back - I hope it won't turn out true. At least you can't use gas rationing for an excuse now.

Did you have a good time at Fruitport Saturday night?

I have been home every night this week. Saturday is the last night I was out. Unusual, isn't it?

Monday night Bernie didn't come home and I'll bet any-

thing that she won't
tonight either. Her mother
got in an uproar the other
day and started telling me
it was because of me that
Bernice has been doing so much
running around.

I've been in a heck of a
mood all week. Monday
night I had to hitch hike home
alone at nine because Bernice
went out with some kids and
didn't bother to tell me about it.
Tuesday her mother yelled at me,
Wednesday we weren't out of the house
all day. Last night I had a time
making her come home from SK
if I had known that I didn't have to
work I wouldn't have gone to SK. She
went to Ramona in the afternoon.
I thought if you came tonight it
would put me in a better humor,
but no go - I'll be home every night
waiting. If you don't come, at least
write.

As always,
Marge

I shot gerries that tried to surrender, civilians who got in the way, cows, cats and dogs too I guess, that's what they tell me, all I got out of that was 4 days at a evacuation hospital, there, they got me drunk and kept me drunk for 3 days and then sent me rite back up, And what the hell am I doing now? Just sweating this fucking redeployment out.

I am in a TD outfit now. And we were scheduled to go to the Pacific (By way of the states) around October, But I guess that's all off now.

Now that the war is over, are they going to discharge you now? You're a lucky stiff me boy, back home so soon and for good too, you just wait until I get there for your drink, because you better be ready for a week long spree when I get there. And these German frau's aren't too bad banging either, I guess Hitler taught them the facts of life before they could walk, cause at 17 years old they're old hands at cuddling a prick.

Why don't you send me a bottle of something to guzzle, I sure would appreciate it.

Well Tony, I'll be seeing you in a few months so keep the Home fires burning and don't drink all the liquor.
your old drunk Partner
Clare "alias Tony"

18 August 1945
Central Pacific

Dear Tony,

Well Ton, by the time you get this letter, you should be at your new base. At least you had better be. You have been getting too many of those women and at the back to suit me. Did you save a few for me, you dog!

Well, now that the war is over, how are your chances on getting out? Don't tell me that they are going to let all P.O.W.'s out right away. That's all I'll need to hear before I send it all. Well according to the Navy plan we have to have 44 points to get out. Poor me; I only have 20 points. If I have to burn this fucked up outfit for another four years, I'll die.

We all got patted the day we heard the news. Everybody was drunk.

Et.-

I don't remember a damn thing after about the tenth beer. I guess I had about 9 too many. Oh well, we had to have some celebration, + that was the only way out.

I see there is quite a few fellows home on leave now. If that Frank Butcher is the way you say he is, I'd like to meet up with him. I'd knock him on his — so fast, he wouldn't know what hit him. Those are the kind of guys I would like to meet up with when I get out of this lousy. There is going to be an awful lot of sorry Ind. Lovers around here when all those enlisted men get back.

What's all this baloney you say about getting hooked. I didn't think that Marion Sherman was still around. What was happened to her + Stray Spangler? Don't tell me that "Love La Puma"

Et.-

put her in the clouds. She might be pretty good stuff for you, but as for me, I think she doesn't belong in my class. She thinks her — don't stink, but her facts give her away. That is just my opinion, I may be wrong, but that is the way she seems to me.

Well Ton, it's getting pretty late, + I want to drop a line to a certain S. R. babe. That takes almost two hours in itself. I just hope you haven't met her yet. If she didn't meet you, she is the only S. R. babe that you haven't met. Well, so long Ton, I write again.

your Old Buddy,
Jim

August 21, 1945
In another post

Hello Tony

I hope you are still home when you get this letter as that is where I'm sending it. Your leave is probably disappearing fast as they usually do. You sure picked a swell time for it, with all that Grand Rapids stuff at the beach about this time. I sure would like to get home around football season at least and with the war over now my chances of leave are much better, even though my discharge is a dream for a few more months. All good things can't happen at once though but now it's something to look forward to.

It will be great when all of the gang get back again. We are all pretty lucky. Guess we will have to rent the Stratton Recreation Hall for a big party. That would be something.

Sure I remember Al & Joe Majorie. Say hello to Al for me. Isn't Joe in the service? I always thought he was.

Now that the war is ended an order came out for all ships to revert back to Peace Time

rules and regulations. Well you can imagine how much more chicken it's going to be. It was bad enough before but now from what some old Navy men tell me it sure is a lot of baloney. Whites will be the uniform instead of dungarees and to top it off, reveille at 5:30 A.M. That's the worst for me. I always got up to eat breakfast at about 7:30. Guess I can endure it till I get paid off.

Went ashore yesterday again and did a little ball playing. Also watched the English sailors at their crazy games. They sure take the Cape.

Last night we had another movie aboard and that makes the 30th one in 35 days. I've seen so many in the past few weeks that the Grand Theatre will be just another building to me when I get home. Probably be a heck of a long time before I walk into the place.

That's all for now Tony. Say hello to your brother Joe & folks for me.

Loads of Luck
Gus.

Aug 29, 45

Dear Tony,

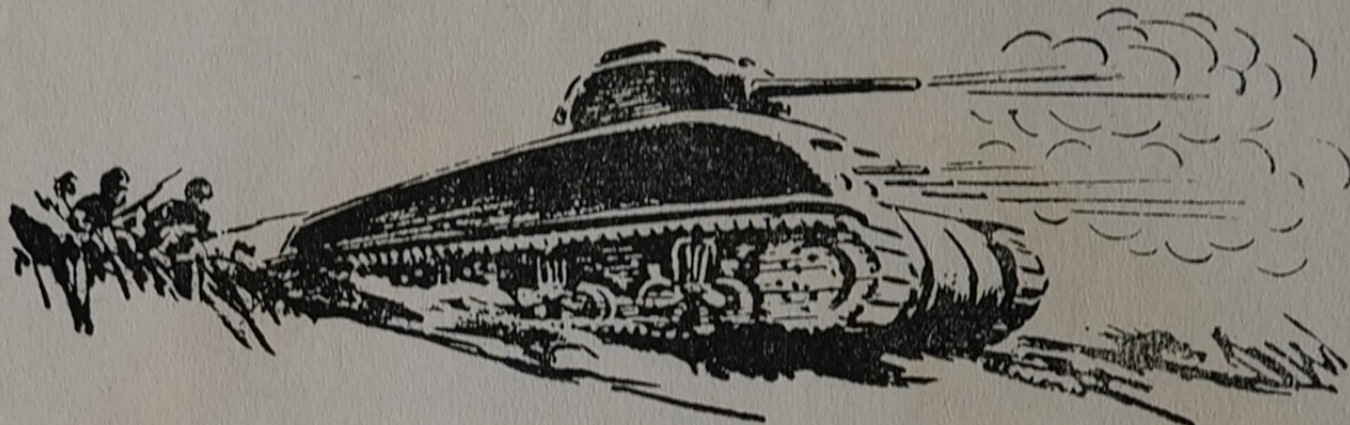
Just a few lines to let you know everything is coming along O.K. here. You will probably receive the \$50.00 before this letter. Enclosed you will find your birth certificate. The weather is very warm here today after three days of rain. Joe is not working so he will soon be down to the beach.

In your next letter tell Bob and Pam to be nice girls. Guess who wakes up at 7:10 every morning (Pam).

You should get a discharge regardless of points. Anyway six months isn't so long.

With Love
Margaret LaPenna

Fort Knox, Kentucky



Somewhere At Sea
19 August 1945

Dear Mrs. LaPenna,

Your letter of April 11, was most welcome and I want to thank you very kindly for it. I also want to express my appreciation for the cooperation and interest you had shown in all my correspondence to you.

In the time that had elapsed since I last heard from you, I received a letter from a Congressman and also one from Geneva, Switzerland in reference to my letters. Now that it's all over and all is well I guess we can dismiss the matter and perhaps talk of more pleasant things.

I have in my possession now a letter from Tony which certainly surprised me. I was very happy to hear he is well.

I resigned from OCS shortly after the war in Europe was declared over. I was transferred to this outfit where I've been ever since. I'm working in the personnel section here now however with the war over, over here, no one seems to know what will eventually become of us.

I'm feeling very fine. The weather here is extremely hot. Accommodations are the best they could give us. Our food--well--no comments. I'm afraid if I continue to go on I'll be putting the censor to work so I'll stop here and give you more details when censorship is lifted.

Best Regards,

Ted

Ted

Grand Haven, Mich.
September 3, 1945

Dear Tony:

Hello. It's 2 hours past September 2nd; scandalous hours I'm keeping, huh? We're having quite a houseparty here at 1111. My mom is in Milwaukee, my Dad is up north fishing and Betty is visiting some friends in Chicago. So at the present there are 4 of us here - Mary, Marilyn, Ruth and I - burning the lights til the wee hours.

Received your card Friday and was glad to hear from you, but Tony when I told you to write I didn't mean just a card! I know you can do better than that, so try it one of these days, huh?

Nothing much has happened around here since you left. You took all the excitement with you! I certainly have had plenty of chances to improve on my bridge lately - one party right after the other.

Are you ~~go~~ having a good time with all those beautiful girls on the boardwalk? Or do you really want me to come down with a few girls and make the place more interesting? Sounds like it might be fun and if I thought you were really serious I might take you up on it. My vacation,

II

up to this point, doesn't sound too interesting. The weather hasn't even been nice enough to go out to the beach.

You mentioned that you would be around the N. G. coast for only about 14 days. What happens then? Are you going to get your discharge or be transferred somewhere nearer home? It would be swell if you got your discharge so soon, then you could enroll in the fall term at Notre Dame and then I could go along so that you could carry my books for me! Wouldn't you enjoy that?

Laura Shoemaker called Mary here this afternoon and they were interrupted by a service man's call. It was Ruthie's husband Jack. He is in New Jersey and will be in Chicago Wednesday. Boy, is Ruthie ever excited.

Seeing that it is such a late hour I think (or hope) you'll forgive me for this letter. To make up for it here is that picture of me that you wanted. Or will that only make it worse?!

Write soon and be good.

P.S. That closing wasn't very nice, was it? I'm sorry.

Love from
"one of your girlfriends"
Leta

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATION NO. 1

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NO. 224)

E X T R A C T

Atlantic City, N.J.
4 September 1945

x

x

x

4. The fol named EM (Returnees-White) are reld from atchd unasgd AFPDC 1010th AAF Base Unit (Redistribution), Det of RAMPS, this sta, are trfd in gr in an AC Unasgd status and WP orgns and/or stas indicated. Transportation O will furnish necessary transportation and in accordance w/AR 30-2215 will determine and issue number of meal tickets necessary for journey. In accordance w/AR 35-4810 FD will pay in advance alws for subs a/r \$1.00 per meal for number of meals indicated after each destination and upon compl of tvl, 3¢ per meal in lieu of transportation from Atlantic City, NJ to destination indicated where Govt T/R is not furnished. Commutation value of garrison rat is payable for excess auth time over that required for tvl by common carrier. TPA. PCS. TDN. 601-31 P 431-02 03 07 A 212/60425 S 99-999. EM are PROJECT "R" pers.- Flt 2 unless otherwise specified.

TO: ETTC 3502d AAF Base Unit Chanute Fld, Ill. Physically qualified for Air Crew Tng (combat). Three (3) meals. EDCMR 10 Sep 45. (EM-792-R50).

AP POWER PLANT MECH

T Sgt Guille In Charge

T Sgt (748)(684P) Carmine M Guille 31305588 AC (MCO-255)

T Sgt (748)(684P) James E McGrath 11043406 AC (MCO-590)

AP INSTRUMENT MECH

Flt 3 T Sgt (748)(686P) Thomas A Reehill 32765857 AC (MCO-010)

TO: WTTC 3704th AAF Base Unit Keesler Fld, Miss for Ap and Engine Mech Primary Course. Physically qualified for Air Crew Tng (Combat). Four (4) meals. EDCMR 10 Sep 45. (EM-793-R50). S Sgt Franko In Charge

Flt 3 S Sgt (611)(747P) Michael Franko 42005148 AC (MCO-590)

Flt 3 S Sgt (612)(747P) Roman P Kosinski 11104177 AC (MCO-481)

TO: ETTC 3502d AAF Base Unit Chanute Fld, Ill for Ap and Sheet Metal Worker. Physically qualified for Air Crew Tng (Combat). Three (3) meals. EDCMR 10 Sep 45. (EM-794-R50).

Flt 3 S Sgt (612)(555P) Anthony Lapina 16168073 AC (MCO-480)

TO: WTTC 3705th AAF Base Unit Lowry Fld, Colo for Photo Lab Techn Course. Physically qualified for Air Crew Tng (Combat). Seven (7) meals EDCMR 11 Sep 45. (EM-795-R50).

S Sgt (611)(945P) Leonard J Dumas 32948799 AC (MCO-010)

TO: ETTC 3508th AAF Base Unit Truax Fld, Wis for Rad Mech Course. P.I.O. cleared. Physically qualified for Air Crew Tng (Combat). Three (3) meals. EDCMR 10 Sep 45. (EM-796-R50). T Sgt Jackson In Charge.

T Sgt (757)(754) Harold E Jackson 33345132 AC (MCO-302)

Flt 3 S Sgt (612)(754P) Louis C Skrzynek 32831549 AC (MCO-179)

AUTH: AFPDC ltr 80-89B, 16 Jul 45).

TO: WTTC 3704th AAF Base Unit Keesler Fld, Miss for Refresher Aerial Engr Courses (C-54). Four (4) meals. EDCMR 10 Sep 45. (EM-785-R49-R50). T Sgt See In Charge.

S Sgt (748)(2750P) Robert H Faulkner 16023237 AC (MCO-242)

Flt 3 T Sgt (748)(2750P) William See Jr 12085642 AC (MCO-010)

Flt 3 S Sgt (748)(2750P) Charles C Vanvoorhis 12184351 AC (MCO-007)

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRANSFER
(This form must be turned in with copy of special orders at your new station)

NAME S/Sgt Anthony Lapina

1. You must report at your new station of assignment on or before the due date. The due date is ascertained by adding your authorized travel time (See Par 6) to the day you leave here. If you are authorized a delay enroute to your new station of assignment you must add the number of days delay authorized to the number of days travel time authorized in order to ascertain the due date.
2. For your information, travel time is always computed in increments of full days, never in hours or parts of a day. No matter what hour you sign out or depart from this station, that day counts as a full day of travel. For example, if you are authorized five (5) days travel time to your new station, and you leave this station on the 10th, you are due to report at the new station not later than midnight (2400) on the 14th.
3. The letters "EDCMR" appearing in your special orders are for statistical purposes only. EDCMR has NO connection with the authorized travel time from here to your new station of assignment. It is NOT the date on which you are due to report there for duty.
4.
 - a. Enlisted men are not authorized to travel by privately owned automobile unless their special orders specifically authorize that mode of travel.
 - b. Officers are not authorized to travel by privately owned conveyance unless the letters "TPA" appear in their respective special orders.
5. Your attention is called to Army Regulation 605-115 which provides that direct communication between individuals concerned and commanding officers of new duty stations relative to delays enroute is not authorized.
6.
 - a. If you travel to your new station of assignment by common carrier (train or bus) you are authorized 2 days travel time.
 - b. If you travel to your new station of assignment by privately owned conveyance (auto) you are authorized XX days travel time.
7. Special Instructions:

Attachment #1

AFPDC Form No. 406 (PR4-10 May 1945)

AFPDC-5-10-45-400

Grand Haven, Michigan
September 4, 1945

Hi Tony:

Received your swell letter this afternoon and that's more like it. Since it is too windy to go out to the beach, I thought I would answer yours right away to straighten something out.

I guess we were both kinda mixed up about my coming to see you. I didn't think you were serious and I guess you didn't think I was. But honestly Tony, I was. I think we would have had a super time - dancing, staying out all night and such! We should have made more definite plans but as it is now you will probably only be there a few more days. So damn the heck anyway.

I am going to try and make this a better letter than the one I wrote so early in the morning. Don't know whether I'll succeed though or not because I have one of those lousy streaks on.

Yesterday afternoon Bev, Mary, Marilyn and I went out to the beach. It was rather cool though, as a matter of fact, I sat there with a sweater on most of the time. Drove on G. H. weather! We ran into Ray Collins and your good friend Carl Krouse, and for once he didn't call me Marion!

II

Lighton H. was also out there in those big "G.I." shoes he is so crazy about - keeping all the girls happy. I believe he weighs more now than he did when he went into the service. Must be inhabiting the Oval Inn a lot. Ralph Bolhouse and Tom Baker were both home this weekend too and they made the rounds of all the blankets (girls') out there. Ralph and Gordie Bolhouse are stationed at Scott Field near St. Louis and Tom expects to be transferred to Texas for transition training and then overseas.

Certainly hope Congress passes that new law for ex P.W.'s. Sounds fair enough to me and I think you P.W.'s are entitled to it. Think I should run for Congress, don't you? At least it will be swell if you are stationed nearer home. You'll let me know where you're going to be, won't you? But of course you will or I wouldn't be able to write you, and so far I think I'm doing pretty well.

But gee, I am really missing out on some good bands out there. Of course, with beer 50¢ a glass and mixed drinks even more we'd both probably be broke after three nights and then I would have to hitch hike home! But it would all be worth it

III

to see you Tony, and it would be great fun. Maybe it will work out later.

I forgot to tell you Tony that my grandmother died last week Sunday. So the whole week was a "mashed" one. But I guess it was all for the best because she was pretty old.

Had a swell letter from Finney last week. Not much to say but he is rather discouraged about getting home. Maybe (and accent on the maybe) he would be home in a year or so. He said that you were his most regular correspondent, that he had a letter from Rescorla a few weeks ago, and that Virning hadn't written in ages so he hoped he was still okay.

No matter where I am, I still have to laugh out loud when I think of that Model T ride. Also still get weak in the knees when I think of those two close shaves we had when Bud was driving. Rosy Mound school house, here we come! Yes, and to be perfectly honest about the Duncan Woods episode I was rather surprised and disappointed - if I may be so bold as to say. But as for thinking you terrible, I don't, and I never said that Tony. You put those words in your own mouth. Nope, you're not terrible - in fact, I like it. So

IV

if you're not home again in time to go swimming again well, well go ice skating and I'll let you push me!

I am going to Marilyn and Mary's bridge party at Marilyn's tonight. Then tomorrow the three of us are going up to G.R. and so I can spend some of my hard earned money. By the way, Mary said she had some swell times with your friend Art.

Well, Tony, this has turned out to be a four-pager and I hope it isn't a boring one. It isn't? Well, that's swell.

So the next time take it easy and write soon.

always

Eta



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Sept. 4, 1945

Deanton

Received your most welcomed letter Sunday and was very happy to hear from you. I would have answered your letter when I got it but as you know the peace treaty was actually signed on Sunday and we started celebrating all over again, as a matter of fact we are still going strong or at least I am. Had a case of beer last night and can still feel the effects of it.

We're leading a pretty easy life now that it's all over. We only work in the mornings and we can do anything we want in the afternoon. Most of the guys sleep, but one or two ambitious ones play basket ball, hand ball or baseball. I spend most of my spare time doing the latter.

O/c Bob Hodal



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

at present I am on mess duty (K.P.) and have a pretty good job. I work one day and have one day off. The day I work it's only for a short time after each meal.

From the way things look now I have to spend a few more months in the service. I can only scrap together 11 points. From what the kids back home have really been so swell gals out at 7's back. I can't say as though I blame you for raising heck for a while and then picking out one to go steady. I must congratulate you on your choice. She is very pretty. I have a picture of her and saw other girls taken last summer and she was very pretty then. Best of luck Tony if you decide to marry her.

O/c Bob Hodal



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

as for me. I'm not sure of any girl waiting for me. I have a writing list of about 10 and most of them I have never seen in real life. only pictures that they have sent and some of them are pretty darn nice.

There is nothing different about our going home. I hope to be home for Christmas but I'm not sure whether or not I'll make it.

Well Tony there isn't much more I can write about this time so I'll have to close for now. Be good and drop me a few lines when you have a couple of spare minutes. - Long -

Your buddy
Bob

O/c Bob Hodal

San Antonio, Texas
Sept 7, 1945

Dear Tony:

I received your letter today. It was just a wee bit late in getting to me. The folks forwarded it on to me here at San Antonio. I was in Miami Beach, Florida for a few days. I arrived there on the 29th of August and left on Sept. 3. I had to rent a hotel room for two days. I couldn't check in until the 31st of August according to my papers. The hotels that the Army had there were so darned crowded that they could hardly accommodate all of us. We really had some swell hotels and rooms. I was lucky in the fact that I had a room on the North East corner of the hotel and always had a good stiff breeze blowing through the windows. The Atlantic rolled in just under our windows. Gee! it was swell until we wanted to go out at night, that's where the rub came in. My God! what prices. There is no difference between the merchants there and Jesse James, except that they didn't carry a gun, but just between you and me. I'll bet they kept a sawed off shot gun under the counter. Prices were just about 2 or 3 times as high as they should be. It was really hot there if we got out of the breeze. It isn't as hot here in San Antonio

as it was there in Miami Beach. The chow was pretty good there but it is just as good here. They give us all the milk and ice cream we can eat. It gets pretty darned hot here during the day but it really cools off at night and we can get some good sleep. The camp where I am now is part of Kelly Field. I am in the Cadet barracks. I guess they don't have any more cadets here.

I haven't done a thing since I came here except lay around, eat, and sleep. They started processing some of the men, then discovered the fact that we were P.W.'s and called a halt. I don't know what they have up their sleeve, but I'm willing to bet that they are up to no darned good. Time will tell, I guess. I'm in no big hurry, I don't have enough points to even think about getting out of the army.

I got my stuff from England too. Every darned bit of it except for a pair of sun glasses. That is a hell of a lot more than I really expected. I mean, I got back every thing from soup to nuts.

Well, Tony, I must close for now. Unless my ears are awfully bad, I can hear the barracks drunks coming in. They just now hit the front door. It sounds like they broke down the door. The old house is shaking like it had the St. Vitus Dance. So long, write soon, Willard

Gale S. Bolthouse RM 36
USS LCT 705 S. LST 75
P.O. Box San Francisco
California

Sept. 11, 1945

Dear Tonya,

You probably think I am a hell of a guy for taking this long to answer your letter, but I just got it yesterday. Yours plus 30 other letters and a slew of newspapers. It was the first mail that I have received since the last of July.

I think the last time I wrote we were in Panama. The first night that we pulled in there from the states, it was about midnight and I was on the radio, we were rammed by a tanker from Chile. I didn't know whether to run or what the hell to do. Everything turned out all right because they just tore the stern off. If they would have hit us amidships we would still be flying because our cargo consists of smoke pots and ammo. That little accident seemed to be sort of a blessed event because it delayed us a couple of weeks to have repairs made, and our ultimate destination was Leyte, so while we were at sea the war came to an end. When we got to Pearl Harbor we only stayed

② A few days, took a hundred passengers aboard and headed back for the states. Right now they are unloading our cargo and putting supplies aboard. The scuttlebutt is that China is our next destination, although you can never tell.

You know, son the Amphibs are not part of the fleet etc. They are just a branch themselves, sort of like the Marines. By my address you have probably noticed I am now a 3rd. class petty officer. Had a hell of a time getting it.

Right now we are at a place called Port Chicago, about 40 miles from Frisco. Because of our cargo they always anchored us way out into the sticks.

The impression I get from your letter is that you are now a fuck-em-all guy. What?

I don't play around with the women so much. They really roll the service men out here. The other day I got hot with the dice and sent home \$00. but right now I am just about broke. You probably will be getting a discharge pretty quick?

③ Sure wish my brother would put on some weight so he could play football. I heard tell that he has the guts for it.

We missed all the celebrating when the war came to an end, we were at sea and each of us got 2 cans of beer.

The shooting is all over but the war isn't until we get home.

You tell me to think of laying on the beach with a different babe every day. When I get a hold of your neck I will wring it like a chicken.

Well I ~~think~~ guess this is about all for the time being. Hope to see you soon, but probably won't.

Your Boy
Gale

PS- got a letter from Ted, but it was an old one.

Sept. 20th, 1945
Berwyn, Illinois

Dear Tony:

Hello there Tony,' what do you mean how come I'm not writing you didn't answer my last letter. Of course I still want to write to you, why should I be angry? I was wondering why you had'nt written. That last letter I wrote to you was at your home. I didn't know were to send another letter to you when you didn't answer my last one.

I noticed you were in Chicago on a Friday, you should have called, I would really have enjoyed seeing you. Honestly I wish you would have.

If you are really serious about coming out here Tony it's really quite simple. When you get down to the loop in Chicago all you have to do is to ~~eat~~ catch a Blue-bird bus, it almost takes you to the front of my house. You can get off at Ogden and Oak Park avenue, and I could meet you there.

You asked if I have seen Art no Tony I have'nt seen ~~Tony~~ him, I have talked to him. But I guess he has gotten a bit angry with me. He called me on a Saturday afternoon, and wanted

-2-

me to go out that evening. Well I just happened to be going out, and I could'nt go. So I guess he is mad about it. But that's just Art's way. He may get over it and call again, but then again he may not and I may not get the chance to see him. He's funny that way. It would be fun seeing him again though, but there is'nt much I can do about it. Anyway temper and all he still is a darn swell Joe. We ~~always~~ did get along. your questions were'nt personnel ~~Tony~~, I'm only to glad to tell you.

Tony I'm sorry it took me so darn long to answer your letter, but I've been so darn busy working, and now that the bowling season has started our league from down at work has been doing an awful lot of bowling, and I just can't seem to find time. There are always so many little things to do when I get home from work that it seems I just don't have a minute to call my ~~own~~ own. But, I washed my hair this evening and pressed out a few of my things, then I sat down to read when my mom said if I didn't have some mail to answer and sure enough there most certainly was. Seems like there's always so much to do and not enough time to do it in.

-3-

I went down and saw a play with the girls ~~from~~ work Sunday, and it was really swell. I have 'nt laughed so hard in a long time. We usually do that about twice a month or so. It's really a lot of fun.

Well Tony this is your belated friend finally writing or shall I say finally answering your letter. So be good and until soon.

"Just Plain Old Me "

Ester



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Dear Tony;

We were expecting you this weekend but we know you will be here next weekend.

Things are coming along here the same as usual. In other words work is getting worse.

The weather is starting to get very cold. I went to see Grand Haven get trimmed by Benton Harbor 25 to 0.

I remember when you couldn't get the car started well there was a short in the horn relay. I'll show it to you when you get home it cost \$7.50. When I would go to blow the horn Sunday mite

The lights, ~~and~~ radio would go out and the motor would stop. Then Monday I told Frank Haltinger. He didn't even look at the car just said we needed a new horn relay and that was it.

Next Friday I think I'll take our car to Muskegon as Grand Haven Plays Muskegon there. Our last out of town game.

I am going to have two tires recapped it cost \$6.48 ~~apiece~~ for one tire.

Samie Smith was here last week he is real tall and gained ten lbs. He can talk and understand still in real good. He talk to me in still in. You will probably see him next week end.

lots of love
Mother

September 28, 1945
Berwyn, Illinois
Dear Tony:

I received your letter today, and it was grand hearing from you again honestly. I can just imagine how surprised you were when you found out it was you who had not written. But honestly, it was. At first I thought you were angry with me although I couldn't understand why. Finally I came to the conclusion you were just plain busy. So you see we both would still have been wondering.

You asked about when you could spend the night, honestly you've really got me. I don't have any idea. I've never had to worry about it.

Why Tony you honestly surprise me sometimes! For heavens sakes

what on earth ever gave you the idea that Art, and I were going together. If I've ever said any thing that might have given you that idea Tony, I'm sorry. I'm not say he's not a good Joe, for I always did think so, but as for anything beyond being friends, it's really too funny. Honestly I've never even given it a thought. I guess that's why it sounded so funny to me. Well anyway, now you no. I was well anyway, now you no. I was sorry I didn't see him when he was home, but after knowing Art for so long it's not hard to understand. That's just Art's stubborn streak showing, I gather he hasn't lost it.

Yes, I'm working now, and I rather enjoy it honestly. I've found it very interesting. It's lots of fun. Really I never knew a job could possibly be so much fun. It could be the girls I work with to. They really are grand.

Hey, that job you've got is certainly some job. Now don't over-work yourself. I doubt that.

Tony, that's really grand about you leaving the Army in about six months, honestly I think it's swell. So you plan on going back to college I think it's a wonderful idea, really I do. I nearly died laughing when you said you thought I wasn't too old to go back to school.

For gosh sakes, of course it's not. And don't say you're going to attempt to finish you are. I certainly hope you do.

Oh! our league from work has started bowling and we bowled for the first time last Tuesday, was it ever an awful game. But it was the first one so at least for that time I have an excuse, but I certainly had better get better. That excuse won't last any too long. We all were a little rusty though.

Besides really being rusty that night I was so stiff the next day I could hardly move down at work honestly it really was awful. I thought I'd die, but I lived through the day.

You said every time you come out to Chicago you get cold feet about calling me Tony. I really would enjoy seeing you Tony, and I assume you I don't bit, honest! If you don't feel as though you don't want to Tony, don't feel as though you have to. I mean I don't like people to feel they have to do things, you do understand don't you, hope so!

Well Tony, I guess I'll close for this time, hoping to hear from you again real soon, nite

Till Soon.

Esther

Gale S. Balthouse R43c
455 AET 705
C/o LST 75
C/o F.P.O. San Francisco
California

6 Oct. 1945
Sat. Gt.

Hi Ma Boy;
Whats cooking?

Boy you sure got a good deal when they stationed you over there in Illinois. Now I would love to be in Chicago, there by you. Sure hope to be out of here by next fall.

We are supposed to drop anchor at Pearl Harbor sometime tomorrow. This sea duty isn't for me. Even if they do pay 20% extra.

You asked me if I heard about Marion Shoemaker and yourself. Well no, the only person that I write regular to back home is my Mom, so I don't know much of the gossip. Take it easy son and don't be hasty and jump off the deep end. Although you undoubtedly know what you want to do.

I see that you want to go to a college where there isn't ^{any} many women now that you are thick with Marion. It sounds like a good idea, going to Notre Dame, only I don't think I was cut out for it.

Boy but this sun is sure hot down here. It probably will get a lot hotter before we quit traveling. I believe Grand Haven plays Muskegon today

although I am not sure. Hope they win, I probably am hoping for too much.

I am going to lay off the liquor in Pearl Harbor and see if it helps my stomach any. I have been having just a bit of trouble with it of late. Sure would like to get a discharge.

Seeing as how I am not cultivating any friendships with the snatch back home I guess I will have to start out anew in that field, whenever I get back.

Sure would like to be playing football. I heard over the radio where Mike beat Northwestern today. I guess Weisenberger is doing all right for himself down there.

Well old boy I guess this is about all for the time being. Keeps hoping for me that I will see you soon. I hope it easy.

Your Old Pal
Gale

Tientsin, China



Oct 14th, 1945

①

Hiya Fella;

Sure was glad to receive two letters from you; both were written in Sept. I guess they had a whopper of a typhoon back on Okinawa and everything including the mail was fucked up. I'm sure glad we left when we did as I did expect a 120 mile-an-hr. wind just about leveled everything in sight. We rode out a typhoon coming up here and I mean it was really something.

I just missed seeing Van Hout as he was on Je Shima and our comp on Okinawa was only a few miles away. I knew where he was all the time but couldn't get to see him - Boy was I pissed off. Rec. your snapshot in one of the letters. Boy you sure are looking good fella. Glad to see it. Hope you get out soon. I think 6 months will see me out of this rotten setup.

This place is just what the doctor ordered. Plenty of wine, women, & song. we get liberty!

cont. -



every 3rd day or so. There are so many "cat" houses around here that some of the boys will fuck themselves to death before we leave. I'm doing alright myself! These white Russian women are all you've heard about them. I had an hour's "poon-tang", 2 steak dinners with vodka + wine (also ice cream) and rode all over the fucking place in a ricksha for about \$3.00 dollars last night. That's about a little better than \$2.00 American money at the present exchange of \$1.50 to \$1. The money situation in China is in a very chaotic state as you can see. The money exchange ratio goes up and down all the time depending on the demand. Hell, you can have a roll of bills big enough to choke a cow and still only have a couple dollars. A piece of ass is about 50 cents; you can Jew 'em down from that! Steak dinners with trimmings are about the same. Boy some of the rest-aunts here are as good as any in the states. You can ride all over town in a ricksha for a \$1.00 dollars. about a nickel in our money.

Next

cont.



So all in all you can't beat the liberty. The Chinese love us, although I think it's really the American dollars they cheer for. Prices are as cheap as hell and there are more women than you can shake a stick at. I wish I had you over here. There's one little doll of a Chinese gal you'd love to make. Boy, she knows every trick in the book & every position. We had her set up in the back room of our billet for a while but that was knocked off. We have the Japs in every day to clean up and scrub the place down. Boy, so I like to make the bastards work. Our job here is to keep order and round up the Japs until such time as the Chinese army can take over. I'm on guard right now; riot squad duty. We had big riots downtown yesterday. The Chinks were beating the shits out of all the Japs and we had to break it up. Boy I'm telling you, when about 100 Chinks are all trying to slash the living daylights out of one Jap someone is going to get hurt. For my money I wish they would kill each other off and then maybe we could go home!

over

④

I think I got a few kinks to my credit in the resulting confusion. We didn't want to break it up. I never thought I'd be protecting these bastardly gyps. We were called out last night as a whole trainload of gyps were passing through and although they still had their arms we had to be on hand in case of any trouble. We set up four machine guns and the rest patrolled around with Tommy-guns. Boy did I feel funny. Here there was a whole trainload of gyps (someone said 1800 of 'em) and only about 20 of us guys around. These gyps are pretty meek however. Enough of this "shop talk" for now.

I can't decide what school I want to go to Tony. I guess that will take a little heavy thought. I wouldn't know what to say about getting married fella. Marion is a swell girl. You know what you want. Well have to pitch a week-long drunk when we all get together again. Boy, I was a hard-up son-of-a-bitch until we came here!! Will appreciate any dope on football from Tony. Take it easy. Best of luck. Ted
your pal

Excuse pencil please

Laurence Kansas
October 18, 1945

Hello Tony:

I finally received your letter this morning. It took a long time for it to finally catch up with me but it finally did.

Well, Tony, I suppose you have noticed that I am again in Laurence, and that isn't the half of it, I am here to stay. You can now address me as Mr. and you can also forget about my serial number. For me the army is Kaput.

I surely did get darned good and tired of just loafing around. I was in San Antonio for just about three weeks and I only ate and slept there. Then I was transferred to Lincoln, Nebraska, arriving in Lincoln on October 3, 1945 and just slept there. I went to Lincoln every day. Finally I got darned tired of doing nothing and decided to see why I couldn't be discharged. I started processing the next day Oct. 13, and was a civilian by the 15th. When I was through with the processing and was given my discharge I had the sum of 88 points. I saw on my discharge paper that I had a total of four battle stars on

my C.T.O. Ribbon. The listed them as Ardennes, Rhineland, Central Europe and one as unknown. (Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, Good Conduct and The American Defense). I still can't figure out the Bronze Star medal. I saw it entered on my discharge paper. I was issued my Good Conduct medal and also the Purple Heart.

I got another stripe while I was in San Antonio but they took it away from me October 15 and I made Mr. That is the one I've been looking forward to for over 4½ years.

Congratulations Tony on your approaching marriage. May your biggest troubles be little ones. I'm not quite so lucky. I'm still single and from all appearances I may finish up the same way in single bliss. I still haven't found my rich widow yet. I still haven't given up all hope yet.

I haven't heard a thing yet about the money that I turned in to S-2 in England. I wrote them a letter several days ago. The claims officer at Lincoln had it typed out for me. I had to write to the Commanding General of the European Theater of Operations and have him start a search for it. Then if he can't find out

anything about it or where it is, he will let me know. I can't put in a claim until we are sure that the claim can't be collected. The claims officer said that he could not put in for a claim for me until he had the papers that I couldn't collect it myself. That is the reason I had to write to England.

The folks received a letter a few days ago. They or rather Denyer is at Stockton Field at Stockton, California. He said it really was a hok. Not a bit satisfied with it. Here is his address.

Sgt. James Denyer-17075009
591st A.F. Base Unit Sdn "A"
Stockton Army Air Base
Stockton, California

Well, Tony, I must close for now.

Write soon
Willard

Spring Lake, Mich.
Oct. 23, 1945

Dear Tony,

I suppose I should be real real mad at you - that is if you forgot about me. But if you had a good reason for not coming over Sunday I guess maybe I could forgive you. Anyway it was a very dreary day & there wouldn't have been much doing. Yet I don't doubt but what we could have stirred up a little something & brightened up the day - even if it only would have been dancing to some nice slow songs.

I must say that I had a real fine time Sat. night with you. Agreed? We're living up to our word of having fun together anyway. But, gee, I must be horribly dull company for you.

How's everything going for you? Sure hope they aren't treating you so rough. With the see - up you've got there I guess I needn't worry about it, though. Just make sure you give yourself enough passes so that things don't get too boring.

I talked to Lela today - seems as if she had a real real time down at State over the weekend.

That's to be expected though, 'cause Marilyn is darn good at showing anyone a good time. Some one of these weekends I'm going to tear down to Michigan to see what's cooking. Mother, Daddy & I are going to see the Mich. Minn. game and I also plan on seeing the last game that Mich. plays at Ann Arbor. I guess that Ohio, but I'm not sure. That weekend I'll go all alone & stay with Mary - that is if everything goes as planned - & if I can get the time off. That doesn't worry me too much though - I usually manage to work it out somehow.

This week I'm working full time - imagine that - so far, so good. He's hoping I last the week out!

Well, Tony, I guess this is it for tonight - I really must dash off a letter to Schen & let her know I'm still around this dear little town. Do write me some time! I know you must be swamped with work but how's about taking time out to write me - you must realize how much I like your letters - so give this little gal a break, will ya? Bye for now. Take it easy!!

Love
Pete



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Dear Tony,

Oct 31, 45

Well we are having some very nice weather. If its cold down there you will get hot when I tell you J.B. Sims has got a discharge. I seen him last nite.

B art is perfectly OK. but the nurse told me the signal quonint has to stay up for another week. Joe is staying with Uncle Pete and Aunt Jessie's.

We are expecting you home this week end when Joe will tell you about some car deals he has lined up. Either a 1936 ford or a 1938 willys.

We can sell our car and get
top price for it. I don't see
why we have to have it.

Pa goes to work every day
as usual. Angie is staying
over to Harbelle's.

Your mother
Margaret La Penna



HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO: AFPPA-8



SUBJECT: Casualty Information of Crew Members
TO: LAPINA, Anthony (NMI), Sgt. 16168073

1. You will be interested to know that there have been formed here in Washington and in the theaters overseas, Missing Aircrew Research and Investigation Offices to collect all information from our own and enemy sources, correlate this information and furnish it to search teams in the theaters who will go to the scene of the casualty incident and investigate. These teams will question those in the area who have knowledge of the incident and trace all leads down until they have the story. The German records we have translated are excellent. We have just received the Japanese records. By combining all this data with the story available in your memory, we can tell next of kin the things that mean so much to them.

2. You may or may not have been questioned in this manner before concerning the mission on which you were shot down and the events that followed. Regardless of previous questionnaires, it is important that we have the information requested here to complete our records concerning combat crewmen remaining in a casualty status.

3. If you have been sworn to secrecy as a result of your escape, evasion or internment, you may consider yourself released from all restrictions as to disclosure or publication of experiences except:

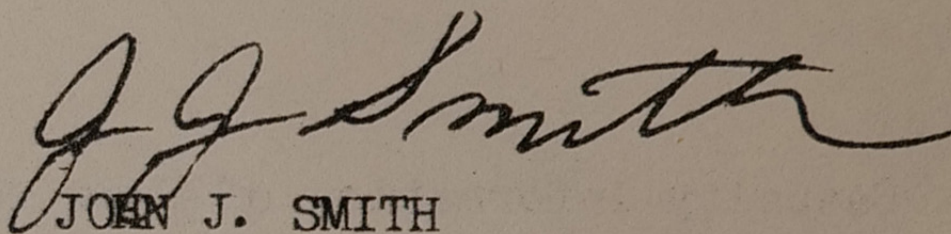
- a. Secret intelligence activities and methods developed for use, or actually used, in prison camps.
 - b. Details of techniques employed by military intelligence organizations operating behind enemy lines to assist evasion and escape.
 - c. Negotiations conducted on high government or military level to secure release from internment in a neutral country. (See AAF Reg 46-8 dated 30 October 1945)
4. Please answer all the questions you can promptly and accurately. Re-

6-3842, AF

ADDRESS REPLY TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

quest that, if possible, answers be typewritten; if not, printed. Mail the reply to Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Attention: AFPPA-8, Washington 25, D. C.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL ARNOLD:



JOHN J. SMITH
Lt. Col., Air Corps
Chief, Notification Section
Personal Affairs Branch
Personnel Services Division, AC/AS-1

Incls

6-3842, AF

Spring Lake, Mich.
Nov. 5, 1945

Dear Tony, (or should I say,
Mr. Hyde?)

See, I'm sorry I missed seeing you this week-end - no kidding. I was quite disappointed but I guess I can't get in on everything. The week-end was real much fun all the way around. The game was super wonderful as you've no doubt heard. The spectacular plays I saw - were quite a relief from the high school stuff I've seen this year. We made quite a weekend of it - naturally we looked up some of the old friends of the family & also got in on part of a family reunion in Marshall on Fri. night. I saw Mary before the game - Marilyn was there & before I left Leta came. so it was swell for us to get together again & compare notes & catch up on the latest. I drove from Ann Arbor to Lansing Sat. night & I was so dead tired then I couldn't drive

any further for fear I'd fall asleep. No one else was in the mood either so we stayed in a hotel - then Sun. took our time coming the rest of the way.

Tomorrow Leta, Betty, Sue, Eleanor & I are going to S.P. to see Hazel Scott - she's giving a concert at the Civic. I'll tell you all about it sometime - seeing as how you think she's plenty all right. I'm looking forward to it in a big way.

How did your big party turn out. It sounded like a bit of all right from the big build up you gave it. That lucky gal from Detroit! Still say you and I have had some real fine times together - being high school kids again, afternoon rides in the country - plus the usual cokes & smokes.

Gotta dash off a love letter to my one & only - brother in law now.

I'll be thinking of you - tomorrow night especially - wishing like mad you could be with me

Always -
Full

Grand Haven, Michigan
November 5, 1945

Hi Tony:

Guess it's about time I answered your letter. Huh? I had it all figured out though, that if I waited til I had taken my trip to Ann A., I would have lots to tell you. See?!

Needless to say, it was a very good ~~good~~ game and a swell day for football. I (my folks drove down) got there about 11:30 and I went directly to Mary's and we rode over to Laura's with Grace's sister and brother-in-law. Did you meet Grace last week-end? She's a swell gal, I think. Marilyn was down too and we both stayed at Mary's house. Slept til 12:00, ate dinner down town at the Sugar Bowl, and then saw "Johnny Angel." Marilyn and I took the 5:00 bus out and I ought to have known better; I always did have "lousy" luck with that bus! We were on the first one but the 2nd one kept stopping because of trouble until finally we were an hour behind schedule. Then finally they had to load all the passengers on our bus. What a crowd! After we hit Lansing it was okay but then in Lansing we picked up more. An "agriculturist" (so he called himself) sat next to me and talked incessantly all the way to Lowell. I told him I had a headache, sat there with my eyes closed and did everything in my power to discourage the droop, but he just wasn't the discouraging type! So I finally arrived in G.P. exactly one hour late! But I had fun anyway. You should have been there - more women to entertain!

Can't think of any big news except that there are lots of fellows getting discharges. Pat and Larry M.F., and that reminds me - Dan was injured quite badly in a train accident over in Japan. He and another

fellow were riding in a jeep and this jeep train, with no lights on, backed into them. He's in the hospital now.

Read in the paper tonight that Jack D.H. arrived in the States and is expected to be home in about 10 days. Pretty swell, huh? Also Wally Dan Strath arrived on the west coast. gee, G.H. is beginning to look like the old town that it used to.

Tommy, you always tell me about the big dances, etc. too late. You'd probably be plenty surprised if I dropped in on you someday. But before I can I'll have to get a car and so far I haven't been able to, so Tommy, I think you'll have to use some of your influence - pull a few strings, etc. How about that?!

Have a nice time at home this week-end? Betty said you stopped out in front and chatted for awhile. And how do you like the big city of Detroit? And how about all those pretty girls there or are you bringing home to the G.H. girls?!

By the way, how do you like little Sally? I think she is a doll. And I think you forgot to mention her as one of your girlfriends of last weekend. I wish I had had more time in A2 because I really didn't get a chance to see Laura and Bill very much.

Well, Tommy, this is kind of a poor excuse for a letter but my eyes are beginning to stick together. guess I just can't take these late hours! Be good and write soon - sooner than I did.

Lee

Thursday

Dear Tony -

I just got the pictures yesterday - honest I did! I really didn't just forget to send them - the service there is pretty slow.

Here til 1:00 A.M., and I have just closed my fat history books, and roused myself enough to write a couple letters. Am really hitting the books this semester - and have the worst schedule ever.

I saw Jane today and she told me Dick got his discharge about a month ago, & is starting at State in January - is it this week to you ??? Yes coming over for the Ohio State game.

Marilyn and Leta were down for the Minnesota game - had a real good weekend.

Wally Dan Stratt is home with a discharge.

- 2 -

so Marilyn is pretty happy.
Everything is just wonderful
with them.

Paul planned on com-
ing down for the Ohio State
game, but received a letter
from her saying she can't
make it. A² is really go-
ing to be lively that weekend.
Ohio State is coming up in
mass - they're not having
classes Friday or Saturday.
They sent us for tickets for
everything - bleachers section at
the stadium, Varsity Site
(main attractions being Tom
Hamon, Hal Newhouse,
Bob Westfall and Navy
Band), and the Dance. Besides
its Homecoming which
means decorations in front
of all the houses, and
many Open-Houses.

This afternoon Jane & I
went down to Laura's. She
had the dress made that
we cut the pattern from
some marionettes, & it looks
real sharp - Believe it or
not!!!

By all the mistakes I've
made, you can see I'm
pretty sleepy - so -
So Long - Mary

LMO

Grand Haven, Mich.
November 21, 1945

Hi Tony:

Well, it's about time I got a letter from you because you really owed me, Tony. But I'll forgive you this time since you just forgot to mail it. I was beginning to think "my, what a friend that Tony La Panna turned out to be!"

Are you coming home for Thanksgiving or are you going to have your turkey there? Fran Smith and her baby are coming over to '1111' for the day. We have such a huge turkey that will probably be eating it for a week.

Haven't heard from Finney in quite awhile and am beginning

III

my Dad got home with his back this noon and is he ever a happy man. This is his third year of trying which isn't too bad. We have enough meat now to last us all winter - along with the turkey!

Read in the paper last night that Bob Van Kossen and Virginia Raskiewicz are engaged. I was kinda surprised because I didn't even know they were going together.

Wally O.S. is home and Marilyn is home for the rest of the week and is she ever happy. Haven't had a chance to talk with her yet but then her time is pretty well taken up.

Well, Tony, take it easy, have fun, hope you get out of the Army real soon. And write. And don't forget to nail it!
always
Lee

II

to wonder if he is on his way home. He was hoping he would sometime soon. Had a letter from George Fulos and he is in Kobe, stationed at divisional headquarters and he doesn't mind it too much.

Went to the Holland game last Friday (7-7) with Miller and Gannon. At the Sandbar afterwards we ran into J.B., Jack O.S., Chuck Fritz and Stuie Pol. Rod around in J.B.'s rattletrap for awhile and then went out to Stuie's and played cards. And by the way, Tony, Chuck F. plays bridge very well! He was my partner!

Have started my Xmas shopping already. How about you? I ploughed through the crowd in J.P. last Saturday and boy, was I a dead wreck when I got through.



Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

ANTHONY LAPINA 16 168 073 Staff Sergeant

553rd AAF Base Unit

Army of the United States

*is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military
service of the United States of America.*

*This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest
and Faithful Service to this country.*

SEPARATION BASE
Patterson Field Ohio

4 December 1945

JOHN M. CREMIN
Major Air Corps

ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION HONORABLE DISCHARGE

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL Lapina Anthony		2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 16 168 073	3. GRADE S SGT	4. ARM OR SERVICE AAF	5. COMPONENT AUS
6. ORGANIZATION 553rd AAF Base Unit		7. DATE OF SEPARATION 4 Dec 45	8. PLACE OF SEPARATION Separation Base Patterson Field Ohio		
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES Ottawa County 1350 Fulton St Grand Haven Michigan		10. DATE OF BIRTH 24 Dec 25	11. PLACE OF BIRTH Grand Haven Michigan		
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT See 9		13. COLOR EYES Brown	14. COLOR HAIR Black	15. HEIGHT 5' 7"	16. WEIGHT 155 LBS.
17. NO. DEPEND.		18. RACE WHITE			
19. MARITAL STATUS SINGLE		20. U.S. CITIZEN YES		21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. Student High School Academic 0-X	
MILITARY HISTORY					
22. DATE OF INDUCTION 24 Jul 43		23. DATE OF ENLISTMENT 20 Jan 44		24. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE Ft Sheridan Ill	
25. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE See 9		26. REGISTERED YES			
27. LOCAL S.S. BOARD NO.		28. COUNTY AND STATE See 9			
29. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE See 9		30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. Airplane Armorer Gunner 612			
31. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATA (i.e., infantry, aviation and marksmanship badges, etc.) AAF Air Crew Member Badge(wings) Gunner		32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS Rhineland Central Europe Air Offensive Europe			
33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS American Theater Ribbon European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with 3 Bronze Stars Good Conduct Medal		34. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION None			
35. LATEST IMMUNIZATION DATES SMALLPOX 44 29 Jan 30 Aug 45 TYPHOID 1 Jul 44 TETANUS 22 Jun 44 OTHER (specify) Yellow Fever		36. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN DATE OF DEPARTURE 13 Sep 44 DESTINATION EAME Theater DATE OF ARRIVAL 15 Sep 44			
37. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE CONTINENTAL SERVICE YEARS 1 MONTHS 1 DAYS FOREIGN SERVICE YEARS 0 MONTHS 9 DAYS S Sgt		38. HIGHEST GRADE HELD 13 Jun 45 US 21 Jun 45			
39. PRIOR SERVICE None		40. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION Conv'n of Govt AR 615-365 15 Dec 44 Ltr WDGP 220.8(22 Sep 45) Subj Disch of Surplus Enl Pers in Z I and TWX AFPMP-13 1186 10 Nov 45			
41. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED None		42. EDUCATION (Years) Grammar 8 High School A College 1/4			
PAY DATA Vou 47053					
43. LONGEVITY FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS 2 MONTHS 4 DAYS 11		44. MUSTERING OUT PAY TOTAL \$ 300 THIS PAYMENT \$ 100		45. SOLDIER DEPOSITS None	
46. TRAVEL PAY \$ 14.30		47. TOTAL AMOUNT, NAME OF DISBURSING OFFICER \$ 127.10 C S MARSH Col AC		48. INSURANCE NOTICE IMPORTANT IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE OR WITHIN THIRTY DAYS THEREAFTER, INSURANCE WILL LAPSE. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U. S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.	
49. HOW PAID ALLIANCE Direct to V. A.		50. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ALLIANCE 30 Nov 45		51. DATE OF NEXT PREMIUM DUE (One month after 50) 31 Dec 45	
52. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH \$ 6.40		53. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO Continue		54. APPLICATION FOR READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCE PUBLIC LAW #246 MADE THROUGH STATE DATE	
55. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W. D. Directives) Inactive Service ERC 24 Jul 43 to 19 Jan 44 Incl (35) Typhus 15 Jun 45 Cholera 1 Jul 44 No Time Lost Under AW 107 ASR (2 Sep 45) 44 Lapel Button Issued		56. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED Anthony Lapina			
57. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature) H S REID 2nd Lt AC				58. DATE 12-10-45	

WD AGO FORM 53, 55
1 November 1944

This form supersedes all previous editions of
WD AGO Forms 53 and 55 for enlisted persons
entitled to an Honorable Discharge, which
will not be used after receipt of this revision.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OTTAWA

I, WILLIAM WILDS, Clerk of the County of Ottawa, and of the Circuit Court thereof, the same being a Court of record, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct photostatic copy of the record of DISCHARGE of Anthony Lapina on file in my office; that I have compared the same with the original and it is a true transcript therefrom and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Ottawa, Michigan, this 27th day of August 1946.

County Clerk

10 Dec 45

Hello Tony!!!

Well kid, believe it or not. I'm actually writing. I guess this makes about my sixth letter in two months. I'll give you the cause --- After hearing the points were only lowered from 60 to 55 and with our mail situation snafu, I just blew my top. Everyone out here thought for sure they would lower them to 50. But no --- damn it, I really got mad. Our mail comes in only once a week and you can imagine how we feel about that. I haven't been myself this past month so please excuse my long delay - I got 50 points and my boxes of things I should be home in February.

All the women!!! - Say, just what are those things? I'm sending this letter to your old Sweet Home - figure you should be home and out by now. Keep the "Short town" alive and keep the women warm - Will be back to help you.

I've been thinking a lot about going to school again. Decided that I would either go to Western Mining or to State. Maybe it sounds crazy to you but I really like Western. Had so damn much fun down there that I don't believe I could do it or have it any other place but I suppose it's the same at any other place. What school did you pick?? Going back to State??

I can't think of much ~~more~~ to write about so I'd better close before I continue to make an ass of myself. Thanks for the letter Tony and I'm sorry I'm not a very good correspondent. I promise I'll do better next time. Let's hear from you. So Long kid - take care of yourself.

Your old Pal,
"H"
L. Turner

December 11

bits from
barb

Hi "lover" :

That's a pretty good name for you, I think. What do you think, or don't you bother thinking? "lover" - yep, that's it! You love 'em all, don't you! Well, that's a pretty good way - I do too. But once in a while things get kinda complicated - but - I usually get them straightened out. You too?

Well, I certainly was surprised to see you Sunday night! Red and I had mentioned you that afternoon, 'cause he said he saw you at the dance Sat. night. It was nice to see you - you're looking darn good! I'm sorry I had company. 'Cause

I would have liked to have
you stay awhile - or were
you in a hurry anyway?
Your friends seemed nice. Holger,
like yourself, but you're nice,
regardless! But, I suppose if
you weren't a crazy, you wouldn't
be like yourself, and maybe
I wouldn't like you as well.
Well, as they say - "opposites attract."
By that I mean, that I'm no
waffles. No lie, I'm really quite
nice. But of course we all have
our own opinions!

It's swell about your going
to Notre Dame. I wish the student
weren't you! I wish I were!
(The student, not going to Notre
Dame - although I wouldn't
mind going!) Are you working
on anything now, or just
loafing and going out?

bits from
barb

The last sounds more like
you. (Don't be hurt! I'm lazy
too!)

Hey, you going steady? I
can't feature it, but perhaps
it's so. How about it —
I'll see up to Barb. — She'll
understand! If you are, I
guess I'm out of luck, but
if you're not, perhaps you'd
birds think it over and
maybe see me sometime before
you leave in February. (or are
I too forward?) I'd really
like to see you — we could talk
over old times and stuff like
that there! (and if you had
enough nerve, you could even

held my hand.) - or does that
shock you?

Pardon me, but I haven't
heard that good ol' line in
such a long time. I've kind of
forgotten how you act when
you take a girl out, etc.

I think I've changed some. So
the good or to the bad. I can't
say. If I ever see you, you
can judge for yourself.

Sorry, old man, guess I better
scream. Got loads of school
work - and I don't want
to be up all night. Write
back sometime, and give me
a big charge, huh?

So long - and take
it cool!

Get me,

Back

Dec. 25th 1946

Hi Tony:

Thanks for the card am very happy to know your out of the army. Yes I would be very please to send you the A-2 but I'm going to spend my New Years in Itrist so you can expect me to drop over your place and I'll bring the jacket over.

Not Ester, and I haven't patch up because I've been quite busy trying to get rid of my cherry. Ha! What are your planing to do? Go back to school is what I'm doing and I got to wait till the Veterans Administration call's me to take an entrance exam.

The weather is lovely here and since last night was Xmas Eve. I went to 12:00 mass and then jump downtown. Boy the gals sure can drink and love the o-o-o-Ko.

Hey, are you still taking your life insurance out? I was wondering if I should take mine out because

2.

20 years I could use the money I put in it. Say around 4,000 years old I can retire.

Kabella, send me a card and she mention this "Art" Now about comeing over the house and see our Xmas Tree. Ha! Ha! Boy her words must be sprouting.

Don't forget mate you still got to drop over my house for awhile because you got to see what circus is like. My regards to your family.

Old Buddy
"Art"

P.S. Reinlist and ask for occupation for the E.T.O. Ha! Ha! Also you can keep your rank. Well I just cant stand those gaster's. They had them in every building I went in the loop.

G S BOLTHOUSE RM3/C
NAVY #824 LOT GROUP 21 (STAFF)
% FPO SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

KWAJALEIN ISLAND
6 APRIL 1946
SAT AFT

DEAR TONY ,

JUST IN CASE THERE ARE A LOT OF MISTAKES IN THIS, PLEASE TRY NOT TO
NOTICE THEM X

I AM ON WATCH THIS AFTERNOON AND AM TRYING TO TYPE THIS WHILE LISTENING
TO THE RADIO, THERE ARE FELLOWS WALKING IN AND OUT , THEY ARE PUTTING ROOFING
ON THIS SHACK, WELL I GUESS THAT IS ENOUGH EXCUSES FOR THE TIME BEING X

LAST NIGHT I WROTE A LETTER TO TED X MY MOTHER WROTE AND SAID HE WAS
HOME ON LEAVE X HE WAS OVER TO THE HOUSE THE OTHER NIGHT AND WHILE HE WAS
THERE RUMSEY CAME ALSO, I GUESS THEY HAD QUITE A GABFEST X

IN THE LAST LETTER I GOT FROM BETTY OWENS SHE SAID THAT YOU HAD GONE TO
COLLEGE AT WESTERN STATE X HOW COME YOU CHANGED SCHOOLS? SURE HOPE I GET TO
GO AFTER I GET OUT OF HERE X

IF EVERYTHING GOES ALL RIGHT I SHOULD BE LEAVING HERE BETWEEN THE FIFTH
AND THE FIFTEENTH OF NEXT MONTH, I HOPE X

I GUESS YOU KNOW I WAS ON MY WAY HOME WHEN THE DROPPED US OFF OUT HERE
FOR THE ATOMIC BOMB TEST X WHEN I GOT HERE WHO DO YOU THINK I FOUND? JIM
MARTINKA FROM GRAND HAVEN, HE WAS ON THE LOT GROUP STAFF THAT I WAS IN X
HE KNEW THE CO PRETTY GOOD SO HE PULLED A FEW STRINGS AND GOT ME OFF THE T
AND UP HERE WHERE HE IS ON THE STAFF X RIGHT NOW X I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD RACK-
ET, SURE HOPES IT STAYS AS SUCH X ERNIE SCHROEDER IS ALSO HERE ON A T , HE
IS LEAVING FOR HOME IN ABOUT A WEEK X

I AM PRETTY FAT BUT DONT GIVE A DAM X

SUPPOSE YOU GET ALONG PRETTY GOOD WITH THE WOMEN DOWN THERE AT COLLEGE
X I AM WILLING TO BET THAT ALL THE WOMEN YOU GO OUT WITH HAVE SHORT HAIR

AROUND THEIR SNATCH X TAKE A LOOK SOMETIME AND SEE IF I AM NOT RIGHT X

DID YOU KNOW THAT MY SISTER WAS ENGAGED TO SOME FELLOW FROM HOLLAND ?

I HAVE NO LOVE LIFE AND AM SURE DAM HARD UP X

WE HAD A PRETTY GOOD SCARE THE OTHER NIGHT X WE WERE TOLD TO ABANDON THE
ISLAND BECAUSE OFF THE TIDAL WAVE THAT WAS HEADED THIS WAY X SURE AM GLAD IT
DIDNT GET THIS FAR, IT WOULD HAVE SWEEPED EVERYTHING OFF THIS FLAT ROCKX

MARTINKA AND I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD TIME TOGETHER, WE ARE THE ONLY ONES
THAT LAUGHX AT EACH OTHERS JOKES X THERE ARE THREE OF US IN THE TENT SO WE ARE
NOT VERY CROWDED X

ARE YOU STILL GOING WITH MARIAN SHOEMAKER X?

I UNDERSTAND THINGS ARE PRETTY EXPENSIVE BACK THEREIN THE STATES X MAY-
BE I HAD BETTER STAY OUT HERE AND SAVE A LITTLE MORE BEFORE I COME BACK BE-
CAUSE I HAVENT GOT A HELL OF A LOT OF THAT GREEN STUFF X

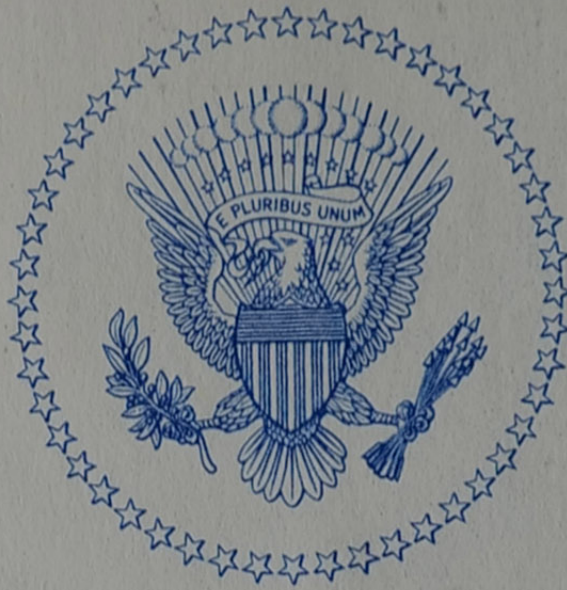
WELL JOE (COLLEGE) I XXXX GUESS I HAD BETTER SIGN OFF FOR THE TIME BEING

X

John To
Ed
Lab

AUTHORIZATION TO REPORT		DTLO BXA/	
Present this authorization when reporting for the service indicated below. If you are unable to report, or if you have moved to another locality, please notify this office immediately.		FOR USE OF ORIGINATING OFFICER	
		DATE October 30, 1946	
TO: _____ NAME Mr. Anthony M. LaPenna, AND 1350 Fulton Street, ADDRESS Grand Haven, Michigan. OF VETERAN OR ATTENDANT _____		NAME & ADD. OF VA OFFICE OR ORIGIN VETERANS ADMINISTRATION CENTER DETROIT, MICHIGAN	
		SIGN. & TITLE OF AUTHOR. OFFICER <i>B. R. Parker</i> B. R. PARKER, M. D. ASST. CHIEF, MEDICAL OFFICER	
REPORT TO "SEE REMARKS"		ADDRESS "SEE REMARKS"	
		WHEN TO REPORT "SEE REMARKS"	
FOR (Specify purpose) "SEE REMARKS"		"SEE REMARKS"	
REMARKS The Michigan Medical Service has been authorized by this office to conduct the physical examination in connection with your disability pension claim. If you do not receive instructions from the Michigan Service within the next ten ³⁰ days please advise this office.			
You _____ are _____ are not authorized to travel at government expense.			
THIS SPACE FOR USE ONLY WHEN TRANSPORTATION AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE IS AUTHORIZED			
THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE ENCLOSED: (Any unused items should be presented when you report. See reverse side.)			
PRESENT YOUR TRANSPORTATION REQUEST TO THE TICKET AGENT: SHOW YOUR REAL REQUEST TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE BEFORE ORDERING TICKETS.			
In the space above will be entered the number and type of enclosures. For example T.R.'s or ticket for Railroad, bus, pullman, etc.; meal ticket and lodging authorizations and/or authorization for travel by other common carrier; or general authorization for reimbursement for actual expenses incurred.			

VA FORM 7501 (TEST FORM) Supersedes 2509, 2509a, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2514, MAY 1946 2515, 2662, 2664



LAPINA, ANTHONY

16168073 S/SGT

To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE

N/A-Not Applicable

WD AGO FORM 53-55

(FOR

NOV - 5 1981

DATE OF CORRECTION 20 March 1974		CORRECTION TO DD FORM 214 REPORT OF SEPARATION FROM ACTIVE DUTY		DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS AUS AAF	
IDENTIFICATION DATA					
LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME LAPINA ANTHONY		SERVICE NUMBER 16 168 073	EFFECTIVE DATE OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE (Day, Month, Year) 4 Dec 45	SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER (City, and State) N/A	
HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Street, RFD, City, State and ZIP Code) See 9			PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING GIVEN ON ORIGINAL DD FORM XX WD AGO FORM 53-55 1350 Fulton St Grand Haven Michigan Ottawa County		
ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION (WD AGO FORM 53-55) CORRECTIONS The original DD Form 214 for the above-named individual is corrected as indicated below:					
ITEM NO.	CORRECTED TO READ				
1	LAPENNA ANTHONY M				
VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General <i>Verne L. Bowers</i> (Signature of Authenticating Officer)					

DD FORM 215
1 NOV 72

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE.

1

MR. ANTHONY M. LAPENNA
2514 BELKNAP N.E.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI. 49505

for D. L. Bacon
Chief, Reference Branch #1
NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63132

DATE: MAR 20, 1974

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

GSA FORM 6941 (REV. 4-73)

ARMY AIR FORCES
Certificate of Appreciation
FOR WAR SERVICE



TO

LAPINA, ANTHONY

16168073 S/SGT

I CANNOT meet you personally to thank you for a job well done; nor can I hope to put in written words the great hope I have for your success in future life.

Together we built the striking force that swept the Luftwaffe from the skies and broke the German power to resist. The total might of that striking force was then unleashed upon the Japanese. Although you no longer play an active military part, the contribution you made to the Air Forces was essential in making us the greatest team in the world.

The ties that bound us under stress of combat must not be broken in peacetime. Together we share the responsibility for guarding our country in the air. We who stay will never forget the part you have played while in uniform. We know you will continue to play a comparable role as a civilian. As our ways part, let me wish you God speed and the best of luck on your road in life. Our gratitude and respect go with you.

COMMANDING GENERAL
ARMY AIR FORCES